

DEDICATED TO RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

PETITS

**CATS
& DOGS**
CAN THEY
REALLY GET
ALONG?

KITTY COUGH

Could your cat
have lungworm?

5 reasons
to desex

Stop the pull!

Eliminate
leash tugging
for good

**HAPPY
valentine's**

6 ways to show your
pet you care

Universal
Magazines

ISSUE 52 (FEBRUARY 2016)
AU \$5.95* NZ \$6.50
(Both incl. GST)

ISSN 1835 - 9841



52

9 771835 984001

**RAGDOLL
ROMANCE**

Flop into love
with this cutie

**OPPOSITES
ATTRACT**

Should you
get a male or
female dog?



LOVE
FROM YOU



Choose dog size



Choose plan
1, 3, 6, 9, 12 months*

*no lock in contracts, cancel at any time!



Relax and wait for delivery
on 15th of every month

gusandlou.com.au

0437 147 486 | info@gusandlou.com.au

THE ANIMAL LOVE ISSUE

THE ANIMAL LOVE ISSUE

32 OPPOSITES ATTRACT

Do female owners and female dogs work better? Or are male owners a better fit for female dogs? *PETS* attempts to work out what the perfect dog match is for you.

34 LIKE CATS AND DOGS

They're rumoured to be enemies to the very end but can cats and dogs get along? We find out more.

62 FIVE REASONS TO DEXEX

It's a simple procedure that has positive effects on your pet's health, so why aren't more people desexing their dogs and cats? Find five good reasons to get on board the desexing train here.

66 6 WAYS TO SHOW YOU CARE

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, *PETS* gives you six ways to show your pet your care.

RESPONSIBLE PET CARE

42 STOP THE PULL

Does your dog pull on the lead, no matter what you do? Persevere against the pull with these fabulous tips.

64 KITTY COUGH

Lungworm diagnosis is on the rise. *PETS* finds out more about the ins and outs of this nasty parasite.

68 ASK YOUR VET

Dr Jo from Fur Kids helps readers with their animal health issues.

70 NAUGHTY OR NICE

Animal behaviour expert Kate Mornement assists readers with their pets' behaviour issues.

CREATURE FEATURES

GREAT DANE	80
CHINESE CRESTED TERRIER ..	82
RAGDOLL	84
PAINT HORSE	86
BLUE AND GOLD MACAW	88



32

34



42

PLUS A WHOLE LOT MORE ...

40 STAY WITH ME

You're going away to pet-friendly accommodation, but just what should you expect when you stay at someone else's place? *PETS* speaks to Stayz Pet-Friendly Accommodation of the Year winner to find out more.

56 OUT AND ABOUT: THE KITTY EDITION

Want to get out and about with your feline friend? We show you some of the best places you can take your cat in the country.

84



88



86



REGULAR FEATURES

EDITOR'S LETTER.....	06
CRITTER CALENDAR.....	08
PAWS FOR THOUGHT.....	10
MY PET.....	12
PET TALES.....	16
PET NEWS.....	18
PAW TEST.....	24
ROARING REVIEWS.....	26
FURRY FREEBIES.....	28
CRITTER CARTOONING.....	30
BEHIND THE SCENES.....	76
CREATURE FEATURES.....	79
KIDZONE.....	90
SOLUTIONS.....	97
NEXT ISSUE.....	97
TERMS AND CONDITIONS.....	97
PETS LOVES.....	98

Cover: A huge thanks goes to Kirsty from Daneholz Great Danes for sharing her gorgeous pups with us for this issue's shoot. For more information, visit their website at daneholz.com.au. As always, thanks goes to Danielle from Animax Photography (animaphotography.com) for shooting this beautiful image.

CATRINE CATMOSPHERE TREAT BALL

Cats are hunters by nature. Stimulate your cat's curiosity with this unique treat dispenser. Filled with your cat's favourite treats the dispenser creates an unpredictable roll that engages the cat to chase it.

One size only 95mm.

Available in 2 colours Black or Magenta.



STIMULO ACTIVITY FOOD CENTRE

The Aikiou Cat Stimulo Food Activity Centre provides engaging entertainment at feeding time. Aikiou have developed the activity centre to help your cat's digestion by slowing down the ingestion of food. The Stimulo also allows the cats to have fun poking around in all of the different tubes while they are looking for their food, you know how much your cat loves sticking their paws into any small spaces! The Aikiou Food Activity Centre will keep your cat entertained and engage their natural instincts while feeding for great physical and mental health.

ANTI BARK COLLAR

This reliable, entry level no barking collar is weatherproof & sound activated. It is one of the most popular citronella spray collars on the market. The Collar stops dogs at the very moment they start barking.

Its comforting effect allows dogs to adapt easily and quietly to their environment while providing peace of mind for their owners.





Hi *PETS* readers,

It's one of our favourite times of year here in the *PETS* office — Valentine's Day! Sure, this day traditionally celebrates romantic love, but we like to use this as an extra excuse to show our pets how much we care for them and what an important part of our lives they are. Last year, I took Danger and Berry on a new walk route. We drove a few suburbs north to a beautiful, flat walking track that ran alongside the beach. This was a great opportunity for the three of us to spend some extra quality time together, and for the two dogs to sniff new smells and see new sights — as well as a great chance for me to explore more of our local area and feel like I was doing my body good before I ate some unhealthy food later that night! If you're looking for ways to show your pet you care this Valentine's Day, make sure you check out our feature on page 66.

While this walk was enjoyable for me and my two pooches, I know walk time can be a stressful experience for many dog owners out there. Does your dog still pull? Find out how to stop this pesky problem in our feature on page 40.

On a more serious note, we also look at an issue that is near and dear to my heart when it comes to owning cats and dogs — desexing. Despite overwhelming evidence to support the fact that desexing is not harmful for your pet, many owners out there still have not desexed their cats and dogs. We give you five reasons why this is just so important on page 62.

Of course, that's not all we have in store. We discover more about cat and dog cohabitation, uncover the facts on lungworm (is your cat at risk?) and learn about the Chinese Crested Dog, the Ragdoll, the Paint horse and the Blue and Gold Macaw.

Give your pet an extra pat or hug from us, and sit back, relax and enjoy this issue of *PETS* magazine.

Lauren, Editor

pets@universalmagazines.com.au

Lauren
xo

WANT MORE OF *PETS*?

Connect with us on Facebook at facebook.com/PETSmagazine, visit our blog at petsmagazine.wordpress.com or sign up for our bi-monthly e-newsletter (link available on our blog).

TAKING CARE OF YOUR FAMILY'S BEST FRIEND

PETS

Editor Lauren McKellar
pets@universalmagazines.com.au

Sub-Editor Sherri Rosenberg

Senior Designer Martha Rubazewicz

Contributors Tim Falk, Carrol Baker, Danielle Lyonne, Dave Hackett, Caroline Zabran, Katie Cincotta, Lovatts, Peter Clarke, Chloe Schneider, Kate Mornement, Jo Beckett

National Advertising Account Manager Kizziah Fieldes
0449 810 957, kfieldes@universalmagazines.com.au

Advertising Production Coordinator Ian Cassel
icassel@universalmagazines.com.au

Associate Publisher Karen Day
(02) 9887 0329, kdaye@universalmagazines.com.au



Chairman/CEO
Prema Perera

Publisher
Janice Williams

Chief Financial Officer
Vicky Mahadeva

Associate Publisher
Emma Perera

Associate Publisher
Karen Day

Circulation Director
Mark Darton

Creative Director
Kate Podger

Editorial & Production
Manager
Anastasia Casey

Marketing &
Acquisitions Manager
Chelsea Peters

PETS No. 52 is published by Universal Magazines, Unit 5, 6-8 Byfield Street, North Ryde NSW 2113. Phone: (02) 9805 0399, Fax: (02) 9805 0714, Melbourne office, Suite 4, Level 1, 150 Albert Road, South Melbourne Vic 3025. Phone: (03) 9694 6444, Fax: (03) 9699 7890. Printed by KHL Printing Co Pte Ltd, Singapore. Distributed by Network Services, phone: (02) 9282 8777. NZ Distributor: Netlink. UK Distributor: KLM Partnership, phone: +44 019 9244 7544. Singapore & Malaysia distributor Carikit (F.E.) Pte Ltd, 1 Charlton Lane, #01-02 Singapore 539631, phone: 65 6282 1960, fax: 65 6382 3021, website www.carikit.com. This book is copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study, research, criticism or review as permitted under the Copyright Act, no part may be reproduced by any process without written permission. Enquiries should be addressed to the publishers. The publishers believe all the information supplied in this book to be correct at the time of printing. They are not, however, in a position to make a guarantee to this effect and accept no liability in the event of any information proving inaccurate. Prices, addresses and phone numbers were, after investigation and to the best of our knowledge and belief, up to date at the time of printing, but the shifting sands of time may change them in some cases. It is not possible for the publishers to ensure that advertisements which appear in this publication comply with the Trade Practices Act, 1974. The responsibility must therefore be on the person, company or advertising agency submitting the advertisements for publication. While every endeavour has been made to ensure complete accuracy, the publishers cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions. This magazine is printed on paper produced in a mill that meets Environmental Management System ISO14001.

Please pass on or recycle this magazine.

*Recommended retail price
ISSN 1835-9841

Copyright © Universal Magazines MMXVI
ACN 003 026 944
www.universalmagazines.com.au

We are a member of
PublishersAustralia
media that engages

PETS is a proud supporter and partner of:

cat protection society





REPORT CARD

- ✓ Toilet trained
- ✓ Rewarded
- ✓ Stains and odours removed

A+



Available at all leading
pet specialty stores.

CRITTER CALENDAR

CHECK OUT THE EVENTS THE *PETS* TEAM IS LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS MONTH

ACT

26-28 FEBRUARY ROYAL CANBERRA SHOW

The Royal Canberra Show is on once again in February at Exhibition Park, ensuring that you get your fill of cute animals to pet, show bags to indulge in and rides to enjoy. An event on the Canberra calendar, the royal show is great fun for the whole family and, best of all, kids under the age of six get in free.

As always, the *PETS* team enjoys the petting zoos and animal attractions most of all. The Farmyard Nursery is especially memorable with baby lambs, chickens,

alpacas, pigs and more on hand to make you go "awwwww" with cuteness overload.

If you're a fan of animals and competitions, then you can watch the dog, cat and cavy (guinea pig) competitions, while those interested in animals of the scaly variety can get up close and personal with baby crocs, pythons, goannas and more at the reptile display.

You can pre-purchase your tickets from Ticketek or buy them at the gate. For more information, visit canberrashow.org.au

NSW

17-30 MARCH SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW



Australia's largest annual event is back. The Sydney Royal Easter Show enters yet another successful year of operation, hoping to attract some 900,000 people through the gates once again. Run by the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, this event

provides a fabulous day out for the whole family, whether you're a breeder, an owner of a show dog, or simply someone who loves animals.

See if you can spot the best-in-show dog or cat by breed, or get caught up in the excitement of some of the canine sporting trials. And, for an animal experience you don't get every day, why not check out the farm animals or the horse demonstration?

Of course, no visit to the show is complete without a show bag, and there are plenty on hand for you and the family to choose from, ensuring you can take a piece of this exciting event home with you.

The Sydney Royal Easter Show is held at Sydney Showground, Olympic Park. For more information, visit eastershow.com.au

GOT A PET-RELATED EVENT COMING UP?

Email pets@universalmagazines.com.au and let us know. We'd love to hear about it.



Puppies make mistakes.
We clean them up.

SOLUTION FINDER

What's your problem?



I need to treat a severe
pet mess



I need to remove a
strong urine odour
or stain



I need to toilet train
my dog



I need to remove deep
set stains



I need to neutralise
pet odours



I need to stop unwanted
chewing



For areas I don't want
my pet to go



*When used as directed

Designed to remove pet messes • Created by pet
product experts • Safe for pets and homes

AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING PET STORES

paws FOR thought

Write to PETS!

Do you have an amazing pet story or a hilarious animal joke to share? How about some feedback on one of our articles? Or did you recently get a new pet? *PETS* would love to hear from each and every one of you (and your furry buddies). Drop us a line at **Paws for thought/PETS, Locked Bag 154, North Ryde NSW 1670** or email pets@universalmagazines.com.au with "Paws for thought" as the subject heading. Letters, poems, photos, collages and drawings are also welcome. Be as creative as you like!



LOUIE LOVE

Hi *PETS*, I have an amazing dog, Louie. He is a Boston Terrier. Louie is only 10 months old and is so small!! I love spending time with him. When he is tired he cuddles up to your chest.
From Ava, via email

Ed: Thanks so much for writing in, Ava. Louie sounds like a very special pet! We bet you love him a whole heap.

BANDIT THE BUDGIE

Hi *PETS* team, I love your magazine! I try to get it as often as I can. I have a budgie called Bandit but we nickname him Bubba. He absolutely loves chewing on the edge of catalogues and he has a not-so-small obsession with bells, it's pretty funny and cute!

I have just recently found out about the Maremma dogs and they seem really peculiar and interesting. I was wondering if you would possibly be able to do an article on them?
Thanks *PETS*!

From Mika, via email

Ed: Thanks so much for writing in, Mika. Bandit, or should we say Bubba, sounds like quite the character! What a funny little Budgie. Great idea about the Maremmas, too. They are such beautiful dogs with very loving natures. We will keep it in mind for future!



ALICE & ELVIS

Dear *PETS*,
I love your magazine so much! I have never been in your mag before because I have never had a pet before. Now I have Elvis, my beautiful tabby cat. He is so kissy and purry. He is so loving. It is hard to believe that he is a rescue cat from the RSPCA.
Love Alice, via email

Ed: Thanks so much for writing in, Alice, and sharing this gorgeous photo of yourself with Elvis. He looks like such a sweetheart! We hope you keep enjoying the magazine.

TALK TO THE ANIMALS

Dear PETS,

I love your magazines! I have two West Highland White terriers of my family's and they are adorable. I am hoping for a cat though! What do you think is most adorable?

I used to have a pink fish, and can you guess her name? Angelina! She died like two years ago. I actually buried her somewhere around my garden. I just think it's ghastly down the toilet!

I will also be able to get some hens/chicks, mainly for eggs! I just love dogs, cats, animals — everything!

The other day I was walking past just an adorable puppy. And ... we left him and he started talking to us! Literally, talking!! We said hello then ... woof! Amazing! I think I may be good at understanding dogs.

I saw a very fluffy cat as well. It was so, so, so, so fluffy! I just couldn't leave without a pat.

From Meg, via email

Ed: Meg, thank you so much for sharing your story with us. It sounds as if you are very much in tune with the animals — how special is that?

We can't choose between those two gorgeous pet pictures — they are so sweet!

Cats and dogs both make great pets, with many different advantages.

You have a great collection of pets at home, too. Westies are just fabulous dogs, and as for chickens?

We are also hoping to get some soon. What a great array of animals!

Thanks so much for writing in, and we hope you continue to enjoy PETS magazine.



PAW-SOME POETRY

To PETS,

Here is a poem I wrote about my dog.

Her melting brown eyes
Begging for a sausage
Are just too cute!
Stop it, Molly; you're making me give in!

She always comes trotting
up to me for a cuddle
And lick! I nicknamed her
the Licking Explosion
As I'm writing this, she's got
her innocent look on
And cocks her head to the side.

When she's being naughty,
She is so adorably guilty
That I never get cross at her,
Whatever she does.

And when she's tired, she'll lay down
With her head on her dog toy
And she'll whimper for a pat.
She loves affection.

When she was a puppy, she was
a fluffy lightning bolt
And would jump on you when
you came home.
Now that she's older, she is calmer
But still very sweet, and fuzzy all the same!

She knows when you're talking about her,
and when you're sad:
She knows when it's time for a walk.
But altogether, she's my companion,
And she's my best friend in all the world!

From Emma, via email

PS. I love your magazine.

Ed: Wow! Emma, that poem was just brilliant. We can almost picture Molly as you write it. You have a fabulous and descriptive tone. Thank you so much for sharing your words with us.

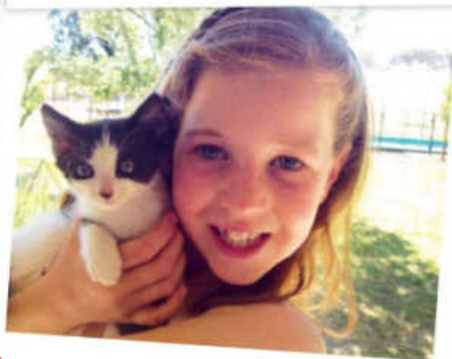
MY pet



Emerald's dog, Limo, is always there for her and is "the best dog in the world".



Melanie loves Frosty because he is loving and trusting, and is a very loyal pet.



Lucy's cat, Panda, is so sweet! He loves sleeping at the door and cuddles — and we love this gorgeous pic! Thanks so much for writing in.



Teresa's Gabe is just too sweet for words. Who could say no to that face?



This pic of **Harriette's** mother's rescue cats, Louis and Bonnie, went straight to our hearts! Butter wouldn't melt in their mouths.



Zoe's Louis likes a room with a view — and we can't blame him! Great shot, Zoe.

Ultimate Balance



Julie Summerfield
Dr Julie Summerfield
Leading Vet & Cat Expert



"Ultimates Indulge 100% complete & balanced gourmet meals are all you need to feed your cat everyday for ultimate health. I recommend Ultimates Indulge, it's the daily indulgence cats love."

Also available in Responsibly Fished Tuna varieties and new meals formulated for Weight Management and Digestive Health.

www.ultimatesindulge.com.au

[f /UltimatesIndulge](https://www.facebook.com/UltimatesIndulge)

For more cat advice
from Dr. Julie, scan here



send us your snaps!

Do you want your photo to appear here on our "My Pet" pages? Email a clear, sharp photo (1MB or larger) of your pet along with your name, mailing address, contact number and a few words about why you love your pet to pets@universalmagazines.com.au or send hard-copy photos to **My Pet/PETS magazine, Locked Bag 154, North Ryde NSW 1670.** Remember to make copies as the photos cannot be returned. Happy snapping!



Jaime's Max and Henry getting into the spirit of things this Halloween.



We love **Summer's** pic of Bean and Auburn so much — who can say no to a double tongue lick?



What's better than one cat? A basket of cats! Thanks for sharing us your beautiful Rupert, Burbank, Vitani, Prince and Ronnie, **Jane.**



Because sometimes, it is too hard to hold your head up over dinner. We get you, Thor. Thanks for the great pic, **Jessica.**



Alyssa's Rossi was once on the cover of **PETS** magazine! We love seeing what a beautiful dog she's grown into.



Sharon's Stussy looks very serious here indeed.

A Sprinkle of Perfection

GLOW Groom Tear Stain Remedy



**A REVOLUTIONARY
PRODUCT**

100% Natural

- Eliminates unsightly tear stains
- Supports healthy skin and coat
- May also assist with bad breath
- Australian Brand



Glow Groom™ provides an exceptional solution for pet tear and coat stains. Discover the difference yourself, by using a tear stain remover for your pet that leads to long-lasting results and is made with completely natural ingredients.



Like Us

For more info visit www.GlowGroom.com

Glow Groom™, Brisbane, Australia | Phone: 0409 484 076 | Email: info@glowgroom.com

petTALES



Meeka is very much a part of the family.

MARVELLOUS MEEKA

Meeka is a loving, happy pet. By Mckenzee Jones.

Meeka is a loving girl. We got her from Geraldton Dog Rescue and as soon as we laid our eyes on her, we took her home. She was still a young puppy when we got her. She was so special and I wanted her to have the best life.

When we took her home, she met our other dog, Dash. After a few weeks, Meeka started chasing him, even though he was twice her size.

We have celebrated the dogs' birthdays, Christmas and Easter with them. I am glad both dogs are happy and healthy and I hate leaving them for a day. I am sorry for all the dogs that are at Geraldton Dog Rescue, but Meeka stood out from the rest. I am so glad she is ours. She is a spoilt dog and loves to play and is friendly to all. I really couldn't have better dogs. If you met her, you would love her too. **P**

ATTENTION
ALL PET
LOVERS!

Tell us why you love your furry, fluffy, feathered, slippery, scaly or slimy friend for your chance to win a cool prize.



CONGRATULATIONS,
MCKENZEE!

You have won a 12-issue subscription to PETS magazine, ensuring you get the latest and greatest pet news delivered direct to your door every day for the next year. We hope you enjoy your prize.



Meeka,
seen here
with Dash,
the other
family dog.



Meeka just loves to play.



What a
gorgeous
pup!

WIN

A PAWSOME PRIZE PACK!

Do you love your pet? Tell us a warm and fuzzy tale about the special bond you share with your best pal for a chance to win a really cool prize.

TO ENTER:

All you have to do is tell us in 400 words or less why your pet is so special and include a few

clear, sharp photographs (1MB or larger) of your friend. Please also include your contact number and mailing address.

Send your entries to **Pet Tales/PETS, Locked Bag 154, North Ryde NSW 1670** or email your entries to pets@universalmagazines.com.au Please read the terms and conditions on page 97 before entering. Good luck!

pet NEWS

PUPPY CHECKLIST

The start of the year is when many people throughout Australia and New Zealand bring home a new furry friend to join their family. Whether you're taking home a gorgeous pup from a breeder or rescuing a new companion from a shelter, there are certain things you're going to need to ensure your first few months with your new furry friend go smoothly.

Here is our checklist:

☐ **Puppy bedding.** When choosing the bedding for your puppy, *PETS* recommends something with a removable cover so you can wash it with ease in case of any accidents. Make sure you pad it out with blankets to ensure your new pup doesn't get cold.



☐ **Puppy food.** When you bring a pet home, always ask the person you got the pet from what diet they were feeding it. Little stomachs can be very sensitive to changes in food and any new meal regime should be introduced gradually over time by decreasing the old food items and adding some more of your own. Most pups need to be fed at least twice a day but check with your local veterinarian and the person you bought the puppy from for more information.

If you are looking at changing your pup's diet, ensure you purchase food designed specifically for puppies. These contain extra



vitamins that a growing pup needs and usually have the sort of consistency suited to a pup's teeth. That way, you're helping your new pup to grow and be healthy.

☐ **Puppy toys.** They're young, excited and they have teeth that are just dying to tear apart your favourite pair of shoes. Puppies need toys not only for enrichment, but also to help ensure they don't destroy parts of your house. By purchasing toys now, you can teach your pup appropriate play behaviours.

We like the puppy range from KONG. These are made from a soft, rubber substance that is perfect for tiny doggies going through the teething stage. They also provide great brain enrichment if you add some food or treats into their body, allowing your pup the opportunity to try to get them out. For more information, visit kongcompany.com

PETS does not advise you leave your pup alone with toys, especially cheap ones, which could be torn apart by your pup, resulting in a choking hazard. It's why quality is so important in this department.

☐ **Toileting products.** Toilet training can be a difficult time, for both owner and pup! Help make this stressful time a little easier with some help from Nature's Miracle. The company's House-Breaking Potty Training Spray is specially formulated to help train your





HOT TIPS FOR COOL CATS

Summer can be hot and sticky for everyone, including our kitties. Every cat needs the usual fresh water and shade but did you know that if your cat is on the mature side, or suffers from kidney problems, you need to take extra special care of them in summer?

Here are some tips to prevent possibly deadly heatstroke in your cat, as prevention is ALWAYS better than cure.

- Make sure your cat has easy access to fresh, clean water and shade.
- Try to stick to fans, instead of air conditioners, as they can actually remove more moisture from the air and in turn add to dehydration.

● In a heat wave, you can gently wet your cat's legs in cool water (even with a damp cloth is fine), as that will encourage them to lick the water off and, therefore, slowly hydrate them.

● Try a hydrating treat. Freeze some fish, chicken or kangaroo meat in water in an ice tray or, better still, freeze it with chicken stock or tuna juice (make sure it's unsalted). Your kitty will love it! Plus, it will keep them hydrated and occupied

● If you have a long-haired cat, October and November is the time to get them clipped and washed, ready for the heat of summer. Clipping really helps keep their core temperature down in the sizzling heat, not to mention helps keep their tummy happy — no more hairballs.

If you do have a mature cat (eight years and older), book in with Dr Kim or your local vet before the burn of summer kicks in to get a urine test to check your cat's kidney function. Kidney problems in older cats can be dangerous around summer and it's better to be informed, prepared and calm, than unsuspecting, questioning and anxious.

For more great feline health and grooming advice, visit thecatpalace.com.au

CHICKEN FACT FILE

If you've ever been lucky enough to get to know a chicken you'll agree they're pretty amazing animals (and not only because they're related to dinosaurs!). Did you know a mother hen will start clucking to her chicks while they're still in the egg? And her babies will chirp back! Or that chickens are really smart? They can solve puzzles that even human kids can't crack. Just like us, they dream, have friends and are all individuals. Oh, and chickens have big hearts too. Research



shows chickens can empathise, which simply means when their friends are scared or worried, they worry too and try to comfort them. Cuckoo for chickens yet? Find out more at AnimalsAustralia.org/amazing-chickens

CAPTURING THE MOMENT

With Instagram and Facebook still as popular as ever, there are more and more places for us to share the one thing we truly love — cute puppy pics. We know you love taking photos of your pet just as much as we do, so here are some of our best photo tips:

1. If you have a dog, schedule your shoot for after you've taken him or her for a short walk. This way, some of their energy will already be exerted and they may be more likely to sit/lie still.

2. Try doing your photography just before mealtime. Cats and dogs alike may be more inclined to sit and stay if you're holding a treat at the other end of the camera.

3. Know your pet. If you know your cat loves to curl up into the cutest pose on the cream cushion on the couch, do your shoot using the cream cushion. If your dog likes to roll around and play with a ball, make sure you get some adorable action shots that way.



Realistically, taking the time to hold a mini photo shoot with your four-legged friend isn't always easy so if you're struggling to get the photos that you will want to have on display, why not visit a professional pet photographer? There are many different animal photographers around, with one of our favourites being Pitter Patter Photography in Melbourne. We love the great photos this talented lady takes — make sure you check them out on Facebook or visit pitterpatterphotos.com.au for more information.

WHAT'S IN YOUR CANINE'S COOKIES?

A message from Dr Marie Rowe

Last year saw an increased awareness of the quality and country of origin of ingredients contained in our everyday foods. This awareness also extends to the food and treats we give our furry family members with more pet parents checking the back of packs for ingredients information. At love'em, we want to assure you we only use the finest, human-grade liver and grains sourced from Aussie farmers we know and trust.



FREE SAMPLES

Show'em how much you love'em with a free sample of our love'em cookies. Simply email thevet@love-em.com.au

It's all about happy people and healthy pets.

It's exciting times at love'em. We've recently refreshed our packaging

and I hope you'll agree that our new look is fresh, natural and contemporary. We have new, exciting products for both dogs and cats coming in the very near future. Keep an eye out for these in supermarkets or drop into our new online store at love-em.com.au where you'll find the full range of love'em products.

CopRice

Max's CAT LITTER



All Natural

100% Bio-degradable



Premium Quality

Effective Odour
Removal

Environmentally
Friendly



CopRice donates a percentage from the sale of every bag of Max's Cat Litter® to help the RSPCA carry out its vital work.

Available at selected
grocery and pet specialty stores.

www.maxslitter.com.au

CopRice is a division of Ricegrowers Limited, trading as SunRice. CR0643ML

RSPCA 
for all creatures great & small

paw TEST

THIS ISSUE, LAUREN
TESTED OUT THE RUFUS
AND COCO RUFUS JUNIOR.

I won't lie — when the Rufus Junior came across my desk, I was excited, then momentarily confused. After all, with the name 'junior' in the title, I was left wondering if this was a toy for younger dogs.

It turns out, however, that while the Rufus Junior may be designed for the smaller or younger dogs in your life, it's not exclusive and no one told Berry that! My five-year-old Staffy saw the pretty, pink, shiny object on my desk and knew that it was:

- a. A dog toy.
- b. Not meant for her.

So, of course, when I went out to prepare some lunch while pondering the quandary of how to find puppies to test this product with, Berry took said item from my desk and proceeded to come and drop it at my feet, as if I simply forgot that she would like to play with it and it needed unwrapping.

Here's what I like about the Rufus Junior toy:

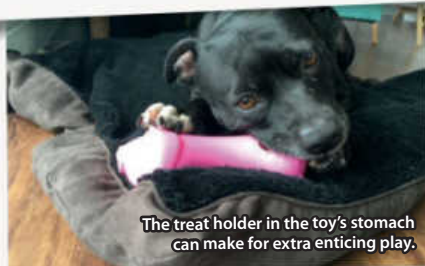
1. **It floats.** This makes it perfect for summer, and we spent many hours down at our local lake playing an engaging game of fetch that also saw the pups getting wet and cooling down.



The Rufus Junior is made from a durable, rubber-blend material.



Berry liked this toy so much, she absconded with it.



The treat holder in the toy's stomach can make for extra enticing play.

2. **It has a treat holder.** This makes it extra engaging, allowing for dogs to still get excited over it even after the initial "new toy" feeling has worn off.
3. **It has a squeaker.** Is it the most novel thing in the world? No. But if your dog likes squeaky toys like my dogs do, I'm sure you'll know just how much difference this makes when choosing a toy.
4. Five per cent of all wholesale sales of this product go to World Animal Protection (formally WSPA) so by providing a new toy for your pet, you're also helping provide a better life for animals worldwide. What better reason to indulge in a new pet toy than that?

Overall, this is another great toy from Rufus & Coco and I highly recommend it. **P**

Come and visit the world's first ethical Cat Café

Café PURRFECTION



at



THE CHATSWOOD CAT PALACE AND CLINIC

CAFE : BOARDING : GROOMING : MEDICAL

Drop in, have a chat, grab a coffee,
and play with our wonderful café cats.

Enjoy the many benefits of cat companionship
without owning a cat.

Call us for more info on (02) 9417 3329

cost
\$20

Unlimited feast coffee



PLUS!

Check out these essential
reads from cat behaviour
expert, Dr Kim Kendall

ORDER ONLINE AT

www.felinefriendlycare.com



The PURRfect gift!
3 book collection

from just
\$9.95
FOR PDF

www.thecatpalace.com.au

roaring REVIEWS BOOKS

OUR DOG KNOWS WORDS

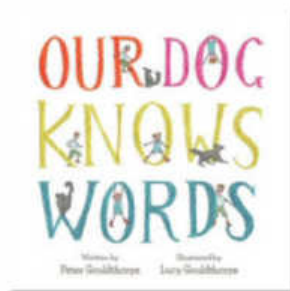
Author: Peter Gouldthorpe

Illustrator: Lucy Gouldthorpe

Publisher: Hachette Australia

RRP: Paperback \$14.99; hardback \$24.99;
ebook \$11.99

Available: Now, from all good bookstores
and digital retailers

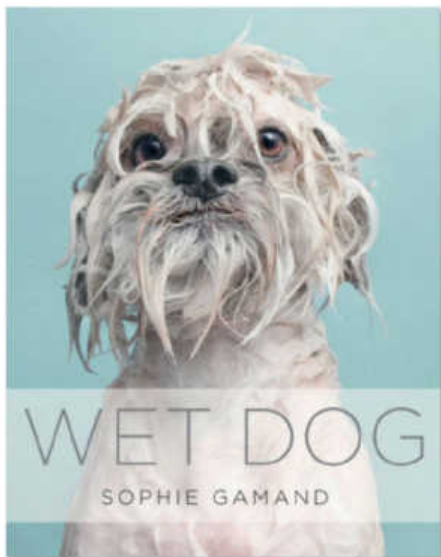


One of our
favourite
picture
books of last
year was
undoubtedly
*Our Dog
Knows Words*.
Created
by father-
daughter
team Peter

and Lucy Gouldthorpe, this glorious book
clearly originated with a love for all things dog
— something Peter and Lucy truly do have.
The story follows a “dog that knows words”
— but whether he acts on them or not is a
very different story! Illustrated in a sweet
colour-scape with lovely paintings, *Our Dog
Knows Words* would make a lovely first book
for all new readers.



- = ZZZZZZ
- = NOT SO GOOD
- = GOOD
- = GRRREAT!
- = PAWTASTIC!!



WET DOG

Author & Photographer: Sophie Gamand

Publisher: Aurum Press

RRP: \$24.99

Available: Now, from all good bookstores

Not since *Underwater Dogs* have we smiled
this much! For lovers of that series by the
talented Seth Casteel, your next obsession is
here — and it's just as endearing as you've
grown accustomed to. Introducing *Wet Dog*, a
collection of photos that are exactly as the name
would imply — wet dogs. Photographer Sophie
Gamand has captured many dogs at their most
vulnerable, as they come out of or head into the
dreaded “bath time”, and the results that follow
are truly a collection of sweet, undignified and
downright hilarious photos. This is the book
you'll buy all the dog lovers in your life this year,
so make sure you get your copy of *Wet Dog*
today — you won't regret it.



Growing Up With KONG[®]



Your cat will love you for it.™

KONGcompany.com

furry FREEBIES

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

Let your pet step out in style with a brand-new, personalised collar from the fabulous team at What's Your Name? The company claims to be the first in Australia to have started offering personalised pet collar products online way back in 2005 — and, clearly, it hasn't looked back.

Not only can you get your specific name customised, you can also request special font, chains, buckles, icons ... the options are many and varied. For more information, visit whatsyourname.com.au. **PETS has five personalised pet collars to give away.**



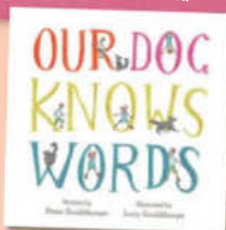
All you need to do is write the **name of the prize** and why you and your pet would love to win it (in **25 words or less**), along with your **name, address and contact number** on the **BACK** of an envelope. Send to **Furry Freebies/PETS, Locked Bag 154, North Ryde NSW 1670**. Or email your entries to furryfreebies@universalmagazines.com.au with the prize name as the subject heading. Entries close March 2, 2016. Please read the terms and conditions on page 97. Good luck!

OUR DOG KNOWS WORDS

Is there a special someone in your life who just adores

sweet picture books full of animal-related goodness? Then you simply must pick up a copy of *Our Dog Knows Words*. This gorgeous illustrated book is by father-daughter team Peter and Lucy Gouldthorpe, and follows the story of a dog that certainly understands what the humans are saying — but whether he chooses to obey them or not is an entirely different story! *Our Dog Knows Words* is a fabulous book for first-time readers.

PETS has three copies of *Our Dog Knows Words* to give away.



CATS IN SMALL PLACES

It's not too late to get organised for 2016 with the *Cats in Small Places* diary. Filled with stunning photographs by the talented Danielle from Animax Photography, this publication was brought to you by the team who produce *PETS* — so you know the cuteness factor will be up there! With a variety of breeds displayed, the *Cats in Small Places* diary

will have you sighing with delight every time a new week begins. For more information, visit

universalshop.com.au. **PETS**

has five copies of the *Cats in Small Places* diary to give away.



HEALTH CHECKED, VACCINATED DESEXED, MICROCHIPPED LOOKING FOR LOVE

Go to www.adoptapet.com.au to see the many wonderful animals waiting to find new homes.



Make sure you're a smart puppy and dog buyer by checking out the rspcapuppyguide.com.au





CARTOON DAVE'S **BIG** PET SCRIBBLE



Try to draw this super-cute LOVE BIRD!



CARTOON DAVE

New, Major Dog's Snack Egg!

A little interactive treat toy, perfect for those with little paws. As your dog's little nose pushes and rolls around the Snack Egg, the dry kibble you placed in earlier drops out for your pooch to enjoy.

A fun way to turn dinner into a game or help keep them mentally stimulated and busy while you're busy.



MAJOR DOG
GEPRÜFTE QUALITÄTS  **PRODUKTE**

The
Snack Egg



Available from:

West Coast
PET CARE
Centre 

West Coast Pet Care Centre

eBay Store: ebay.com.au/West-Coast-Pet-Care

Website: www.west-coast.com.au

Email: reservations@west-coast.com.au

Phone: 08 9306 2767

Address: 49 Adams Road
Mariginiup (Wanneroo), WA, 6078



Male puppies can be a little more boisterous than their female counterparts — of course there are exceptions to every rule though.

OPPOSITES ATTRACT?

Does what sex you are
affect whether you make
a better pet owner?
Carrol Baker reports.

Do girl pets makes better pets for girls, and boy pets make better pets for boys? Or vice versa? If you think that's true, according to the experts, you could just be barking up the wrong tree!

BATTLE OF THE SEXES

Do you like boy pets that might be a bit more rough and tumble — ones you can wrestle with, toss a ball to and hang out at the park with? Or perhaps you'd like a girly, snuggly pet you can cuddle up to and put ribbons in her hair?

Just like you can tell the differences between boy and girl pets by their physical characteristics,

your pet can tell if you are a boy or a girl too. Cats and dogs can tell the differences between humans by their scent — dogs in particular have more than 10,000 times more powerful scent detection than humans. Some people might say male or female dogs or cats prefer the company of boys or girls, but mostly it seems your dog or cat will be best buddies with whoever takes care of their needs — feeding, walking, training and playing with them — regardless of whether they (or you) are a boy or a girl.

But, that isn't always the case. If you have a rescue pet that may have been mistreated, you might find your pet prefers either men or



women, depending on how they were raised as a pup or kitten.

The breed of your pet will also factor into their nature and temperament. Some cat and dog breeds are boisterous and outgoing including Golden Retrievers or Burmese; others are quiet and shy such as Toy Poodles or Himalayans.

BOYS ARE ON THE BALL

Boy pets are smart and, given their “alpha” status in the wild, they usually lead the pack, meaning they can have take-charge personalities. For this reason, Dr Robert Stabler, veterinary behaviour specialist, says boy pets can be a lot more switched on and focused than girls. “They’re busy patrolling the perimeters of the yard, scouting around for danger,” he explains.

SUGAR AND SPICE

Swedish researchers say that girl dogs are friendlier and more empathetic than male dogs. In a study where dogs tried to solve complex doggy puzzles, of the 400 canines tested, the females were more likely to ask for a helping paw from humans! Awww ...

BOYS BEHAVING BADLY

Did you know girl pets can be a little bit better behaved than boys? Well, according to some researchers, it’s true! Male pets (especially dogs) can be a bit more goofy and fun loving — and we all know that is kind of cute — but they might not always do what they are told. And another cool fact: female cats can have mood swings. They might be a bit cross with you one day for no reason, and loving you to bits the next. “On the whole, though, desexed and female pets appear to have less behaviour problems than male pets,” says registered specialist in veterinary behaviour medicine Dr Robert Holmes.

Hmmm ... so you might have to put a bit more training into your male cat or dog!

A LITTLE BLING

The good news for girls is that if you like to pop your puppy in your handbag, dress up your kitty cat and wheel them around in a pram, it doesn’t matter if your pet is a boy or a girl, according to Dr Glen Tobiansky, veterinary behaviour animal

consultant. “I’ve seen both boy and girl dogs come in with their nails painted, so I don’t think boy dogs mind dressing up,” he says.

DOUBLE TROUBLE?

So, while it seems it doesn’t matter whether your pet is the same sex as you or not, sex does come into play if you are introducing a new dog to your existing pooch. According to RSPCA Victoria, if you already have a dog, it is advised that you opt for the opposite gender of your existing pup, as they will generally get along better with each other. But it’s not the case if you get a kitty cat. Pam Johnson-Bennet, host of Animal Planet UK’s *Psycho Kitty*, says that when adding a second cat, matching their personality and temperament is a better idea than basing it on the sex of your pet.

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

The reality is pets and owners often pick each other — regardless of sex. When your paths cross you just ... well ... know. Perhaps it’s the fluffy little kitten that licks your toes or the rescue puppy that covers your nose with doggy kisses — when the right one comes along, you’ll know you and your forever pet have found each other.

MONKEY BUSINESS

Dr Kat Gregory, a veterinary behaviourist who trains all kinds of animals, including exotics, says the only animals the sex of the person really matters to are great apes. “One silverback I knew very well always preferred to work and play with girls. With men, he often viewed them as a challenge and the relationship was never easy. Having a large silverback yelling and ‘displaying’ aggressively towards you is a tad intimidating!” she says. 

THE FINAL WORD

Ultimately, it doesn’t matter whether you are male or female, and your pet is male or female. As long as you treat it well, provide mental and physical exercise and give it as much love as you can, you’re bound to have the most harmonious relationship possible.

Cats and dogs truly can get along.



CATS AND DOGS

We've all heard the phrase "fighting like cats and dogs" but if you're the proud owner of a fabulous feline and a perfect pooch, how can you help your two gorgeous pets get along like a house on fire?

Tim Falk reports.

If cartoons have taught us one thing, it's that cats and dogs don't get along. From *Garfield and Odie* to the ongoing inner conflict of *CatDog*, relations between these two different types of furry friends can be strained at the best of times — and often a whole lot worse.

And while many pet owners have no trouble picking a side to support in the battle between cats and dogs, there are others that love

both these animals equally and want to keep both as pets. But is it possible for a pet dog and cat to share a house harmoniously and get along all the time?

The answer is a resounding yes, according to Kim Forrester, the proud owner of two cats, a Labrador and a parrot. Twelve-year-old Labrador Ria, 11-year old Domestic Long Hair Smokey and six-year-old Domestic Short Hair Snuggles are proof that cats and dogs don't always fight.

"Ria, the dog relocated with us from Kuala Lumpur to Sydney in November 2007, however she was in quarantine when we adopted Smokey," Kim explains. "When Ria was introduced back into the home, Smokey chased her around for a few hours to assert his dominance. After that, they simply ignored each other. Interestingly, when we moved home a year later, Smokey didn't settle until he saw Ria at our new home."

Snuggles was adopted two years later. "Snuggles tried to make friends with Smokey



but Smokey is too regal to hang out with mere mortals," Kim says. "So, instead, Snuggles started approaching Ria, the dog, for attention. Within a couple of days, Snuggles was obsessed with Ria — following her, sleeping with her, grooming her. Ria is so laid-back that she let Snuggles follow her and lick her etc. That bond remains to this day.

"In January of this year, we relocated to Singapore with all our pets. They settled incredibly well, knowing they were all together. Smokey still ignores everyone; Ria and Snuggles are still best mates."

FORMING FRIENDSHIPS

This example proves that dogs and cats can get along with one another and live happily together, even if they do have different play styles and needs.

"For the most part, early socialisation, before nine weeks in a kitten and before 12 weeks in a puppy, has a big part to play," says behavioural veterinarian Dr Eloise Bright from Love That Pet.

"Cats are often not introduced to dogs early in their socialisation phase and so later on when they encounter dogs, often the interaction doesn't go well. Many dogs will chase cats and the cat will respond with a swipe, so it all gets off on the wrong foot. All introductions should be positive and gradual, involving lots of treats."

Of course, the best way to introduce your two pets to one another can vary depending on a wide range of factors. The age of each animal and their previous experience and interactions with different species will need to be taken into account.

Many cats like to have a high resting place to retreat from their canine friends from time to time.



"The animal can draw on their previous experiences when it comes to the behaviour they exhibit," explains dog trainer Cat Saunders from The K9 Company. "If your dog has had the opportunity to chase cats or other small animals and has a high prey drive, caution should be taken to ensure the safety of both animals."

"Your cat's behaviour can also play a crucial role in how the introductions go. Should your cat be fearful and run from your dog, this can bring out your dog's prey drive, which may end in a traumatic encounter," she says.

The situation will also be influenced by which animal was there first. "If the cat is there first, for all initial interactions, the dog should be on a lead or crated," Dr Eloise says.

"Treats to distract the dog and encourage calm behaviour should be used. Any positive

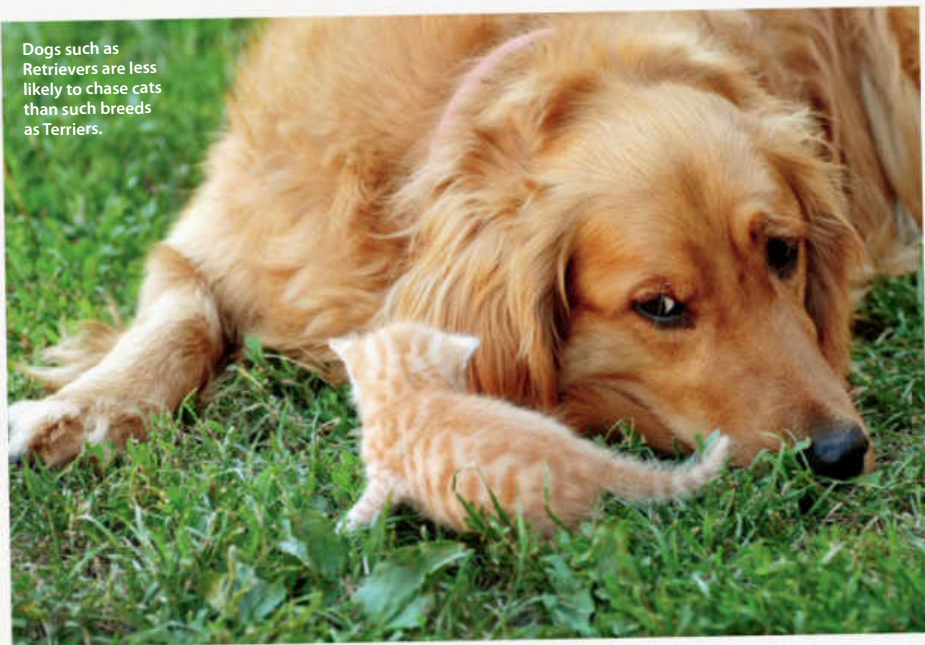
DID YOU KNOW?

"Terriers are often confirmed cat chasers, though can live peacefully if socialised early on," Dr Eloise says. "Dogs such as Golden Retrievers and Spaniels are often less likely to chase and are generally of good, even temperament fit for multi-species homes."

If you rescue a pet, aim to find an animal that has been fostered with cats and dogs.

interactions should be rewarded. The cat needs to be able to take things at its own pace, so provide lots of elevated resting areas and don't force interactions. If necessary, give the cat its own room as a base that is

Dogs such as Retrievers are less likely to chase cats than such breeds as Terriers.



Perfect for your backyard hen

100% Vegetarian

No added hormones
or Antibiotics

Natural*

High in
essential oils

No artificial
yolk pigments

CopRice donates
a percentage from the
sale of every bag of
Lucky Layer™ to help
the RSPCA carry out
its vital work.



Lucky Layer™

CopRice Lucky Layer is a perfectly balanced and complete pelleted feed providing all of your hen's daily nutritional requirements.

It uses the finest 'natural' ingredients with added vitamins, minerals, and trace nutrients, including high quality vegetable proteins to supply essential amino acids, great for egg production and size.

CopRice Lucky Layer is a vegetarian feed using only cereal and vegetable protein sources to deliver high quality protein to the free range hen.

CopRice Lucky Layer has no added hormones or antibiotics and contains an egg yolk pigmenter, derived from the marigold flower.

www.coprice.com.au

* With added vitamins, minerals and trace nutrients. CopRice is a division of Ricegrowers Limited, trading as SunRice. CR0618LL.

completely dog-free and set up some Feliway to decrease stress levels."

If the dog is there first, setting the cat up with its own room in the house is a great idea, as the cat will need time to settle in before being introduced to the dog. Again, make sure any introductions are with the dog on a lead and allow the cat to explore and interact at its own pace.

There's also plenty more you can do to help your furry friends get along. "Cats prefer elevated resting positions and providing dog-free areas can help. Using baby gates and clearing the top of book shelves or providing a cat tree can add cat-only areas to the home," Dr Eloise says.

Reward all calm, positive interactions with treats, and elevate your cat's food bowl so that it's out of reach of your dog. Making sure there are litter trays on each level of the home, so the cat does not avoid going to the litter tray because the dog is in the way, is also a good idea.

"Cats love routine, so providing a scheduled play and interaction time one-on-one with the owner can help, particularly if the cat is very attached to one person," Dr Eloise advises. "For dogs, providing lots of play and mental stimulation in the form of puzzles and toys can reduce cat-chasing behaviour. Also, lots of exercise, of course."

And, last but not least, make sure to give each of your pets all the love and attention they need every day.

With the right approach to introducing your pets to one another, your dog and cat could one day enjoy a bond as strong as that between Ria the Labrador and Snuggles the Domestic Short Hair.

"They have had a bond since day one, I think because Snuggles wanted to bond with Smokey but he wasn't interested. The friendship is mostly instigated by Snuggles but Ria plays along. They explore the garden together, sleep together, groom each other..." Kim explains.

There are never any fights between these furry siblings and if older cat Smokey gets

annoyed with the other two, he simply throws a death stare at them and moves away.

Besides, as Kim points out, her furry pets have something more important to worry about than squabbling with each other: Ana the Eclectus parrot is the real boss of the whole house. "All the other pets avoid her and run away from her if she is prowling the house," Kim says. **P**

BUILDING A BOND

Dog trainer Cat Saunders offers some simple tips to help ensure a stable and happy relationship between your dog and cat:

- Have your dog on lead when introducing the two animals.
- Ensure your cat has a safe exit route at all times and can escape/avoid your dog if needed.
- If either animal is demonstrating avoidance behaviours, take your time and don't push the situation.
- If your dog is demonstrating excessive excitement and/or is highly focused on your cat, again, take your time.
- Crate training your dog can be of huge benefit in these types of situations to see how both of your animals behave in each other's presence while ensuring the safety of all involved.
- Having a good, strong level of obedience under distraction with your dog can also be of great help.
- Seek experienced and professional advice when needed.
- Be prepared to accept that in some circumstances, individual animals simply may not coexist with particular species.

Join the love'em family for giveaways, news and special offers **love-em.com.au**

and find the love'em range available to buy online



**AUSSIE
BEEF LIVER**

We only source the very best human grade liver from local farms we know and trust.

**100%
NATURAL**

Dogs love the irresistible taste and aroma of 100% natural liver. It's good for them too with vitamins, minerals and no additives. What's not to love?



**AUSTRALIAN
MADE & OWNED**

We're proud that we are 100% Australian. Our products are made with locally produced and sourced ingredients so we can guarantee the quality and freshness.

VISIT US AT
love-em.com.au

For your chance to appear on pack, special offers, weekly giveaways, news and so much more.

"As a vet, I am passionate about developing pet treats that enhance your dog's health and wellbeing. That's why I guarantee your satisfaction with all our love'em treats - or your money back"

Morie



follow us on



HOME AWAY FROM HOME

When it comes time to go away, choosing whether or not to take your pet can be a huge decision. When you're staying at Debra Cronin's Culburra House, however, the choice is easy. **Lauren McKellar** reports.



Culburra House sleeps adults and children, with a well-equipped play room.

It's that time of year again. The sun is shining, the weather is warm and vacation is on your mind. However, when it comes time for holidays, having a pet can make things rather tricky.

Thankfully, things aren't like they used to be. As well as the many convenient boarding options available, now many holiday properties let you take your pet away with you — in fact, some even encourage it!

One such place is Culburra House, on the New South Wales south coast. I was recently asked to judge the Best Pet-Friendly Property in the Stayz 2015 annual awards — and it was my pleasure to name Culburra House the perfect getaway location for those looking to take their pooch on holiday with them. Featuring an open-plan living area, stylish modern design and a secured garden, Culburra House truly proves that you don't have to sacrifice style or comfort if you're looking to take your pet on holiday with you — something some other properties seem to do.

In fact, the Culburra House mentality isn't just about letting you take your dog away with you. Its owner, Debra Cronin, believes you should be able to enjoy the vacation experience with your dog by your side, both inside and outside the house, making for a more enjoyable experience for both



Debra's Rose enjoys the view from one of the rooms at the property.



With a view like this, it's not hard to see why holidaymakers enjoy staying at Culburra House.

pet and owner. "The dogs just love it because I let animals inside," Debra says. "When I go to pet-friendly places, a lot of the time the dogs aren't allowed inside. I don't mind, as long as they're not on the sofas!"

Not only does Debra allow the dogs inside, she also ensures they're well provided for when staying on the property. "You don't need much for dogs to enjoy themselves," she says. "But I supply all the things they need — bowls, grooming products and toys."

There's even a washing station for owners to rinse their dogs down after a trip to the beach. As Debra says, she's a dog lover — she knows what's important to those of us with furry friends.

LOCATION, LOCATION

As with any good holiday, the location of the property is important. Located in Culburra on the New South Wales south coast, Culburra House is a short 18km away from Nowra. Popular local attractions include Jervis Bay, Berry and Kangaroo Valley, which are all close by and full of fun and exciting things for you and your four-legged friend to discover. Great surf spots are located nearby, and the popular Shoalhaven River has two neighbouring boat ramps for you to launch from. But if getting wet isn't your thing, there are also

plenty of bushwalks, delicious dining experiences and even local-based producers for you to discover, including an oyster and a dairy farmer.

Of course, though, the real jewel in the dog-friendly crown is Culburra Beach itself. The property is tucked away in a little cove, protected from the north-easterly winds the area is notorious for. It's at the beginning of the point, meaning there is a beach in front of and behind the property, giving you access to a surfing beach as well as a quieter, calmer beach, ensuring no matter your tastes, Culburra has you covered. The best part though? "Both beaches are pet-friendly," Debra says. "They're off-leash in the morning and the evening." That means your dog can enjoy discovering the local area just as much as you will!

PREPARATION AND PRECAUTIONS

When it comes time to prepare for your trip to Culburra, Debra has all the necessities. Having said that, if you'd like to ensure the trip is as enjoyable as possible for your four-legged friend, *PETS* recommends taking along bedding and a few of your dog's favourite toys to ensure he feels comfortable. Also, upon arriving, offer your pooch some "safe" spaces and entertainment options in case the new area is a little overwhelming.

Debra also warns holidaymakers to be wary of local parasite dangers before they commence their trip. "I inform owners that anywhere on the coast is a worry for ticks, and I have a little blurb I email to advise them to put tick treatment on before they arrive," she says, adding that she also, of course, expects owners to clean up after their pet while they are on the property — something all of us are used to.

PETS also recommends your dog is protected against fleas, especially in this warmer time of year. While you may not have any problems at home, heading away to unfamiliar beaches, parks and areas can always expose your pet, and prevention is certainly better than cure when it comes to these pesky parasites.

Aside from that, you and your dog can kick back and enjoy Culburra House. It is a fully fenced property, so you have peace of mind, although Debra does mention that on the ocean side of the property, the fence lowers to around 30cm in height — something to be wary of if you have an enthusiastic escape artist! **P**

FOR MORE
INFORMATION

on this and other great pet-friendly
properties, visit stayz.com.au



It doesn't matter the breed or size, some dogs just like to pull when on the lead.

PULLING POWER

Pulling when on lead is one of the most common behaviour problems among our mischievous canine companions. **Tim Falk** discovers how you can train your dog to go for a walk without yanking your shoulder out of its socket.

If you've ever walked an untrained dog, you'll know that some of our canine companions love to pull when on a lead. In fact, rather than you taking your dog for a walk, it's your dog that walks you! And at the end of a walk, you're left with a sore shoulder and a feeling that you've just been dragged all over town.

"Pulling on leash is one of the most commonly experienced issues reported by dog owners," says Jade Fountain, an animal behaviour consultant with Animal Behaviour Matters as well as puppy supervisor/trainer for Assistance Dogs Australia. "Dogs can learn to pull in any kind of walking equipment so it is important to seek guidance in teaching your dog to walk on a loose leash if you are not sure you can solve the problem."

Chiara Perri from Point Cook Dog Training

says that a dog pulling on leash can lead to a vicious circle: the owner gets frustrated and exhausted at the prospect of taking their dog out and stops walking their dog, causing the dog to develop further behavioural issues. "It is very important that the problem be resolved because the dog ultimately will end up staying home and from this comes boredom, frustration and eventually behavioural problems," she says.

Jade says it's vital to remember that we need to teach our dogs what we do want — them to walk next to us with a loose leash. "Dogs pull to get to things that smell good, to investigate the world and maybe because our pace is a little slower than theirs," she says. "When they start to pull towards something and it pays off, they know pulling works and it becomes a well-practised habit. The more opportunity the



dog gets to pull you all over the place, the more he will do it."

Some types of walking equipment such as harnesses that attach at the dog's back (between the shoulders) can influence your canine companion to pull more. A harness that attaches at the front (on the chest) can be the most helpful equipment if used in conjunction with a consistent training program.

TRAINING TACTICS

So what's the best way to teach your dog not to pull when on leash? We asked both dog trainers to explain an easy way to go about it.

Jade Fountain

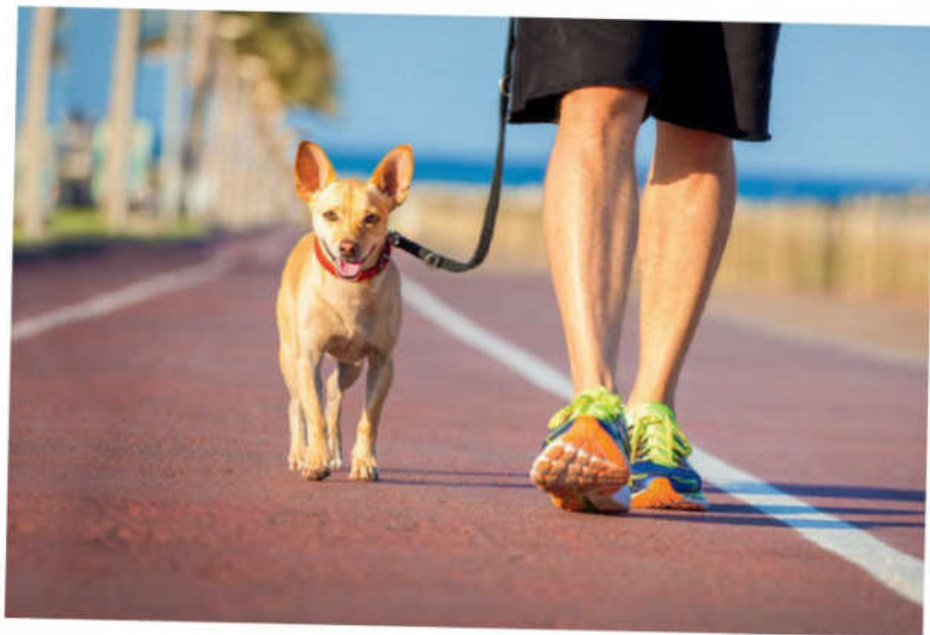
"Most successful loose-leash walking starts in the house, with no distractions. We start by teaching the dog to walk at your side successfully," Jade says.

As your dog walks alongside you, give him a treat to let him know he is doing what you want and set him up to be more likely to do the behaviour again. We repeat this quite a few times until the dog is happy to walk along beside you inside. We gradually reduce how many treats are given as they walk alongside you. It should still pay off for them a few times on a walk.

"Once outside, stop still when the leash tightens; your dog learns that pulling isn't going to work. These techniques can be used while you simultaneously teach the dog to be in the right place by your side: 'pulling doesn't get me anywhere, but walking by your side is: worth it'"

"Finally, seek a trained professional who can guide you in applying positive reinforcement to effectively teach your dog what you want.

"Jerking on your dog's collar, correcting him



A nice loose lead is the sign of a well-behaved walking dog.

or pulling him back when you feel frustrated is not going to help the situation — this doesn't tell the dog what we do want, is unfair on the dog and can cause injuries over time," Jade says.

Chiara Perri

"For younger dogs, pups and dogs with no history of pulling, the best way to get it started is to teach them 'Follow Me,'" Chiara says.

1. Position your dog so it stands facing you. Have the leash around your wrist, loose, have a treat pouch with treats and start walking backwards.
2. Each time your dog comes towards you, makes eye contact, is keen to follow you and remains on a loose leash, reward him and keep moving.
3. Change angles, directions and even speeds to keep your dog interested and guessing, and reward very frequently to provide an incentive for him to stick around.
4. Now, choose the side you would like your dog on and, with your hand, motion for him to come up beside you and start walking together in the same direction. Continue to treat your dog often for eye contact, remaining loose and hanging around with you.
5. From here, you can start becoming more

OLDER DOGS

Even if you have a mature pooch that likes pulling on leash, it's never too late to teach your dog to walk beside you. "Older dogs have more practice at pulling on leash, so we have to retrain your dog where you would like him to walk, instead of straining at the end of the leash," Jade explains.

"We use the same principle of reinforcing the behaviour we want in a low-distraction environment, such as in the house. Aim to set him up for success by teaching in a quiet area and gradually reintroduce the walks outdoors; starting back in an unfamiliar area where the dog doesn't have a history of pulling can help."

unpredictable again by changing angles, speeds, stopping and going again, all the while teaching your dog to pay attention and to stick with you. By doing this, you are encouraging your pooch to do this by himself, instead of relying on the leash to keep him near you.

6. Eye contact and focus are very important when it comes to teaching your dog to walk next to you. Your dog needs to remember that you are on the end of the leash and if he wants to go from A to B, he needs to be polite, have some self-control and follow you.
7. Taking this exercise out on the streets is always harder and will take longer because of smells, distractions, people and other dogs. So, be patient, be generous in your treats and keep it fun — and, whatever you do, don't allow your dog to continue to drag you around.

"Pulling on the leash is a big problem and far too common but with time and patience and good-old focus, your dog will soon learn to walk with you like a partner in a dance routine," Chiara says. **P**

WHAT CAN YOU TEACH ME?

Need help stopping your dog from pulling and teaching a range of other good doggy behaviours? Chiara Perri's book, *What Can You Teach Me?*, offers a step-by-step guide to basic dog training using positive reinforcement.

It's available from eBay and from pointcookdogtraining.com.au



cats and kittens for adoption

cat care products
information
discount desexing
school holiday programs
kids club

cat protection society
OF NSW INC.



www.catprotection.org.au



AWLQ

ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE QLD'S

Party Animals!

"Birthday parties for kids who truly love animals"

Hey kids! Do you really love animals? Do you want to do something a little different for your birthday this year? Then why not have your next party at the Animal Welfare League Qld on the Gold Coast?

You will have a birthday to remember, cuddling with some of our special shelter animals, playing animal-themed games and doing animal-themed craft activities with your party guests!

The best thing about our parties, is that you will be helping to support the work of AWLQ, who care for over 10 000 homeless and abandoned animals in South East Qld each year!

Party Animals is ideal for for kids between the ages of 5 - 12 years old and we will tailor your party to your needs, making sure you and your guests have the best time possible.

This is what we provide:

- Choice of party invitation designs
- Set-up and animal-themed decorations
- AWLQ 'Party Host'
- An animal-themed craft activity
- Guided 'behind-the-scenes' shelter tour
- Presentation and hands-on interaction with Education animals
- Choice of 'party area' spaces (either indoor and air-conditioned or outdoors and shaded)
- AWLQ 'Take-home' party bags with AWLQ goodies

This is all you need to provide:

- The food (incl. cake) and drinks
- Clean up

COST: \$300

[Includes provisions for up to 10 guests]

\$11 extra per additional guest

**All proceeds go
directly to helping
animals in need
at the AWLQ!**



awlqld.com.au



/AWLQLD



Blue and Gold Macaw
Photo: Big Stock Photo

TAKING CARE OF YOUR FAMILY'S BEST FRIEND
PETS



TAKING CARE OF YOUR FAMILY'S BEST FRIEND
PETS

Ragdoll
Photo: Animax Photography
(animaxphotography.com)

TAKING CARE OF YOUR FAMILY'S BEST FRIEND

PETS





Chinese Crested dog
Photo: Big Stock Photo





TAKING CARE OF YOUR FAMILY'S BEST FRIEND

PETS



TAKING CARE OF YOUR FAMILY'S BEST FRIEND

PETS

Great Dane
Photo: Animax Photography
(animaxphotography.com)



TAKING CARE OF YOUR FAMILY'S BEST FRIEND

PETS

WHERE CATS RULE ...

Presenting the Australian cat-lovers destination guide. Compiled by **Caroline Zambrano.**

Cats may be the second-most-common pet in Australia (after dogs), and are becoming increasingly more popular on TV and the internet, as well as often featuring as the main attraction in cafes and museums around the world.

There is even a Hello Kitty theme park in China and a dozen "cat islands" around Japan, where there are significantly more feline residents than people!

But you don't have to travel across the world to get your feline fix. *PETS* has put together the top places of interest for cat lovers in Australia, as explored by our very own Caroline.

NEW
SOUTH
WALES

GAT PROTECTION SOCIETY, NEWTOWN

The Cat Protection Society (CPS) is Sydney's no-kill cat shelter and charity, helping thousands of felines (and the people who love them) each year through services including cat and kitten desexing and rehoming.

CPS also provides information and advice on feline health, behaviour and welfare to more than 5000 human clients, and reunites dozens of lost cats with their people.

NEW
SOUTH
WALES



Cafe Purrfection, Roseville

CAFE PURRFECTION, ROSEVILLE

Cafe Purrfection is Australia's first ethical cat cafe. At Cafe Purrfection, you can enjoy the magic of "Cat-fection" while petting and cuddling trained and temperament-selected cats and kittens living at the Chatswood Cat Palace.

As an ethical cat cafe, all resident cats are sourced from a variety of rescue centres and the cats' wellbeing is prioritised when interacting with Cafe Purrfection visitors.

The cost for each person cuddling/playing with the cats is \$20 for a one-hour session and free for people-wrangers. And the coffee, tea or hot chocolate is free for all.

You can read the life story of each cat on the Cafe Purrfection Cat Gallery via thecatpalace.com.au/cat-cafe/ and then phone 02 9417 3329 to book your cuddle time with the cats in person.

CPS has play rooms where you can meet and get to know the friendly felines available for adoption. The Society also has a range of feline merchandise for sale at the shelter, including CPS' very own book, *Feline Friends* — *Tales from the Heart*, as well as a range of quality and quirky second-hand items at the nearby Cat Protection Society Op Shop to raise much-needed funds for cat welfare programs.

For more information, visit catprotection.org.au or phone 02 9557 4818.

**NEW
SOUTH
WALES**

CATMOSPHERE CAFE, SURRY HILLS

If you're a space nut and love cats, then Catmosphere Cafe is the place for you — you don't even need a rocket ship to get there!

This space-themed cat cafe offers coffee and food and an opportunity to spend time with friendly rescue cats in designated cat rooms. You can visit the cafe and order a meal or "catpuccino" and/or book your time with the cats in a separate designated area.

To ensure the happiness and welfare of the "catstronauts", bookings are restricted to 15 people per hour. Booking cost is \$20, which includes an hour with the cats and a complimentary cat-shaped cookie and coffee. You can also party with the catstronauts with up to 10 people for \$200.

To make a booking, visit catmospherecafe.com or email sydney@catmospherecafe.com



Cat Protection Society of Victoria, Melbourne

CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF VICTORIA, MELBOURNE

The Cat Protection Society of Victoria is a shelter and charity that was established in 1947 with the purpose to rehome cats and kittens. All cats available for adoption are desexed, microchipped, vaccinated and come with a two-week health cover. They also go home with you in a free cat-carry box.

The Society relies solely on donations, legacies and memberships, and provides information and advice on feline health, behaviour and cat welfare to the public. There are designated areas to play and cuddle the cats in, as well as various education programs on the agenda.

If you're looking to buy cat products or accessories, a range of feline merchandise is also available for sale at the shelter, with all proceeds going directly to the care of the cats.

For more information, visit catprotection.com.au or phone 03 8457 6500.

VICTORIA



Cat Cafe Melbourne

CAT CAFE MELBOURNE

Cat Cafe Melbourne is Australia's first cat cafe and offers a fun, comfortable and relaxing environment surrounded by a number of friendly kitties from rescue shelters.

While the main focus of the cafe is the cats' welfare and happiness, it does offer hot and cold drinks, as well as a range of gluten-free, vegetarian and vegan snacks, not to mention some cakes and treats to satisfy your sweet

tooth! Plus, you can take your cafe-bought food and beverage into the cat area.

You can also book a private session for group events, with a few restrictions. Children under the age of eight are not permitted, however.

There is a \$10-per-hour charge to enter the cat room, which can be booked via catcafemelbourne.com. For more information, phone 03 9642 8540.

VICTORIA

ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Animal Welfare League (AWL) has two shelters in South Australia where you can meet and spend time with lost and abandoned animals that are available for adoption.

Caring for thousands of lonely and unloved animals each year, the AWL Wingfield shelter also offers multiple important pet services, including adoption, boarding, cremations, dog grooming and dog training. The AWL Edinburgh North shelter has undergone a fantastic renovation

and recently reopened for all adoptions.

Both shelters have a designated area where you can cuddle and spend time with the cats that are looking for a loving home, as well as an on-site pet store, with all profits going towards providing life-changing services to the animals in care. The AWL SA also has four ReTAILS thrift shops, all of which are run by volunteers, with all profits going directly towards the caring of rescue animals.

For shelter and thrift shop locations, or for more information, visit awlsa.com.au

**SOUTH
AUSTRALIA**



RSPCA South Australia

RSPCA SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The RSPCA South Australia has three animal shelters — one in Adelaide (Lonsdale) and two regional facilities in Whyalla and Port Lincoln — that are home to many friendly, furry faces waiting to be adopted.

Visitors are also welcome to visit the shelters to meet and interact with cats and other animals available for adoption, including dogs and rabbits. The adoptions building of the Lonsdale shelter has a “kitten room” where people are able to watch the friendly felines play and even go in for a cuddle.

RSPCA also has five thrift shops in Adelaide metro areas where people can grab a bargain, with all sales going towards funding the Society's work to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome thousands of animals each year.

For shelter locations, visit rspcasa.org.au/services/shelters and for more information on RSPCA thrift shops, go to rspcasa.org.au/get-involved/thrift-shops/

CAT HAVEN, SHENTON PARK

Western Australia's premier cat welfare shelter, Cat Haven, is the purrfect place to find a new feline companion. Rescuing cats has been the basis of Cat Haven's work since 1961, as the organisation helps find homes for thousands of cats and kittens every year through adoption and foster caring.

The shelter also offers luxury boarding and veterinary services for cats, plus a well-stocked retail store (also online) with all store proceeds going directly to Cat Haven's cat welfare and rehoming programs.

And if you can't get to the Cat Haven shelter physically, you can always enjoy virtual kitty cuteness via Cat Haven's Kittycam on **freezone.iinet.net.au/vod/freezone/lifestyle/kitty-cam/13158**

For more information, visit cathaven.com.au or phone (08) 9442 3600.

**WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**



Cat Haven, Shenton Park



Hobart Cat Cafe, Hobart

HOBART CAT CAFE, HOBART

Looking for the purrfect place in Hobart to spend a lazy day relaxing with delicious food, great coffee and the cuddliest of cats? Then Hobart Cat Cafe is the spot for you!

At the Hobart Cat Cafe, you'll find freshly

made snacks and nibbles, meals and desserts available to eat in the dedicated fur-free cafe area, as take-away or with the cafe cats — if you don't mind a bit of fur and wet noses pushing at your plate!

All the cafe cats are selected from shelters and rescue centres throughout Tasmania so that visitors not only get the best cat experience available, but also none of the cats are stressed, nervous or over-patted during the day.

Unfortunately, none of the cats are available for adoption but you can visit any time via a number of options, including a 15-minute no-booking-required session or a standard 45-minute booking for \$10. You can also organise an evening with just you, a special friend and your furry chaperones for \$300, and set yourself up with a year of unlimited visits for \$500 or a lifetime of pats and purrs for \$3000!

What's more, the Hobart Cat Cafe is teaming up with RSPCA Tasmania, the Hobart Cat Centre and Small Paws Animal Rescue to host educational classes on everything from responsible pet ownership to cat first-aid, as well as working with private providers to offer art-and-craft sessions, animal-assisted therapy and a variety of other events.

For more information, visit facebook.com/hobartcatcafe

TASMANIA

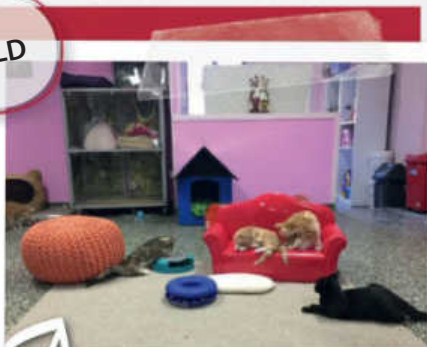
CAT CUDDLE CAFE, RED HILL

A 15-minute walk or short bus ride from the CBD, Brisbane's Cat Cuddle Café's sole purpose is rescuing and rehoming as many cats as possible. All cats at the cafe are available for adoption.

The cafe serves fine, organic coffee and an array of yummy cupcakes, biscuits and cakes. It can also host birthday parties and other events, with some rules and restrictions to ensure the welfare and enjoyment of the guests and cats.

Cost is \$10 per person, per hour. There is a minimum age of seven to ensure the safety of children and the cats. You can book online at catcuddlecafe.com or by phone (07) 3189 2426.

QLD



Cat Cuddle Cafe, Red Hill

ACT

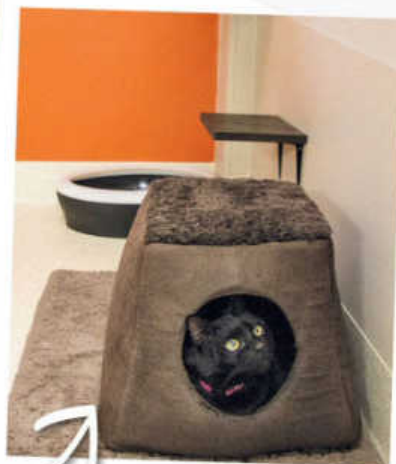
RSPCA ACT SHELTER, WESTON CREEK

Part of Australia's leading animal welfare organisation, RSPCA ACT cares for and rehomes more than 4500 domestic animals every year. The shelter also has a veterinary clinic and fully functioning retail store that sells pet-related products.

In addition, RSPCA ACT offers dog and puppy training and

has a "cat lounge" for members of the public to interact with rescue cats available for adoption. If you're lucky, you might bump into RSPCA ambassador and record-breaking Olympic swimming champion, Alicia Coutts, who is an avid animal lover and works part-time in the cattery.

For more information about the shelter, visit rspca-act.org.au or phone (02) 6287 8100.



RSPCA ACT shelter, Weston Creek

RSPCA QLD

RSPCA Queensland has nine shelters and a small adoption centre in Mackay and Rockhampton. The organisation also owns two large World for Pets superstores in Brisbane and sells a range of pet products through all its shelters.

There are also 12 RSPCA-owned op shops, and 100 per cent of profits from these op shops and the World for Pets superstores stay within the RSPCA to raise much-needed funds to support 44,000 animals that come into the organisation's care each year.

When visiting the shelters, you can ask for a "meet and greet" with the animals or participate in the regular programs during the school holidays. The RSPCA Brisbane Animal Care Campus, located at Wacol, is one of the most significant animal welfare facilities in the southern hemisphere and has a cafe on-site.

For locations or more information, visit rspcaqld.org.au

QLD

ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE QLD (AWLQ)

QLD

The Animal Welfare League Qld (AWLQ) has five rehoming centres where you can view and spend time with animals available for adoption, plus three community veterinary clinics, one of which is in Hobart, Tasmania.

AWLQ offers many different programs for people of all ages, including fun and educational guided tours of AWLQ's flagship Rehoming Centre on the Gold Coast for the public upon request. The Cat Adoption Centre at the Gold Coast Rehoming Centre is being rebuilt to offer a more comfortable place for cats and their visitors.

When you're done playing with the kitties, check out the retail stores located at all the shelters, where you can purchase all your pet products and accessories. AWLQ also has 11 op shops, with profits from these and the retail stores going directly to support the thousands of animals rescued each year.

For activities and locations of the shelters and op shops, visit awlqld.com.au



www.ziwipeak.com

100% NATURAL NEW ZEALAND PET NUTRITION



Is your dog itching for ZiwiPeak?

Did you know that a lot of dog skin problems, irritations and itching can be solved by a simple change in diet?

A natural raw meat based diet, with no grains, minimal carbohydrates, and high levels of healthy omega oils could be the solution for you, if you find that your dog's prescription diets or skin treatments are not working.

ZiwiPeak is the ideal way to feed or supplement your dog's diet, offering all the benefits of a raw meat diet, in a convenient, safe, shelf-friendly form.

Give your dog the very best in natural, healthy nutrition, treats, and oral health chews.

A complete, convenient and safe 100% natural raw meat diet with no hassle.

Great for skin and coat condition, dogs with food allergies or intolerances, and for fussy dogs.

No unhealthy starchy carbohydrates.

ZiwiPeak.

- Top-rated by leading independent food studies and reviews.
- All the benefits of raw feeding, with no need for refrigeration, freezing or thawing.
- Over 95% digestibility. Over 90% meat.
- With added Green Tripe and Green-Lipped Mussel to boost immunity and joint support.
- Long shelf-life.
- Super-convenient, human-grade, and safe to handle.
- No corn, grains, starches, sugars, salt, preservatives, colours, hormones or antibiotics.

Available for cats as well as dogs, air-dried in resealable pouches, or moist in easy-tab cans.



Ask for ZiwiPeak by name at your local pet shop, vet, holistic practitioner, health food or convenience store, or order it from leading online pet stores.

ZiwiPeak is distributed by Number One Country Cousin, 2/4 Browns Road, Nowra, NSW 2541.

E-mail us quoting Pets magazine for a free sample and brochure.

E-mail: ziwipeak@icloud.com. Tel: (02) 8011 0205.



5 REASONS TO DESEX

Getting your furry friend desexed is an important duty for every responsible pet owner.

Tim Falk finds out why.

1 PREVENT DISEASE

The most obvious benefit to getting your pet desexed is that it's good for their health. "For dogs, desexing prevents a number of diseases," explains Love That Pet's behavioural vet Dr Eloise Bright.

"Female dogs that are not desexed are at a higher risk of contracting pyometra, a type of uterine infection that can be life-threatening. Around a third of entire female dogs [those that

There are many animals in need of a home
— why risk creating more by not desexing?

have not been desexed] contract this disease and require emergency surgery. They are also at higher risk of mammary cancers.

"Eighty per cent of entire male dogs develop an enlarged prostate that can interfere with their ability to urinate. Desexing also prevents testicular cancers and makes it less likely they will develop certain types of hernias," she says.

In our feline friends, desexing reduces the risk of breast cancer in females and decreases your pet's chances of picking up diseases such as leukaemia, the flu and feline immunodeficiency virus. In other words, desexing sets your pet up with the best chance of enjoying a long and healthy life.

2 REDUCE ROAMING

Desexing can have several behavioural benefits for dogs and cats, so getting the procedure done can in turn make your own life easier. Any dog owner who has seen the desperate lengths their male pooch will go to



in order to track down a female in heat, or a cat owner who has been hit with expensive vet bills after their roaming male was injured in a fight with another kitty, knows just how many problems the urge to mate can cause.

"We find that entire male dogs are more likely to show up as strays or get hit by cars, since they tend to smell female dogs on heat up to 2km away and are more likely to roam (and not look each way before they cross the road)," says Dr Eloise. "Male cats that are not desexed tend to fight and roam and are more prone to traumatic injuries."

"I actually think it is pretty cruel to keep a male dog entire, but not have him used as a breeding animal. They do smell female dogs on heat, so they have that desire to mate but have no way of satisfying those urges."

3 STOP SPRAYING

Did you know that desexing can reduce your pet's desire to mark their territory? "Male cats are known for their habit of marking or spraying around the house, so desexing your male cat will greatly reduce the likelihood of this behaviour being practised," says Jade Fountain, an animal behaviour consultant from Animal Behaviour Matters and puppy supervisor/trainer for Assistance Dogs Australia.

"In female cats, desexing reduces excessive vocalisation associated with being in heat, inappropriate elimination or spraying and roaming."

Less time spent cleaning up unsightly, smelly puddles around the house? That's a win no matter which way you look at it.

4 IT'S NOT "CRUEL"

One common excuse owners give for not desexing their pets is that it's cruel, but the truth is actually very different. "Pets don't have the sense of 'self' that humans do," Dr Eloise says. "They live in the moment and don't plan for their future and have regrets that they didn't start a family. These are human concerns."

"I commonly get male owners worried that their dog will miss those testicles because they themselves are attached to them. Dogs don't 'miss' their testicles; they just aren't wired that way."

5 LESS UNWANTED ANIMALS

This might be the last reason on the list but it's a critically important one for any animal lover. Each year, RSPCA shelters alone around the country take in 160,000 unwanted animals — and who knows how many thousands of those were the result of unplanned litters.

If you get your dog or cat desexed, you can reduce the number of unwanted pet pregnancies in Australia and, in turn, reduce the number of pets that end up in shelters facing euthanasia.

"Currently, there are thousands of pets euthanased through our shelters and not enough homes for all of them," Dr Eloise says. "Cats will easily have two litters a year if not desexed. Breeding and rehoming dogs can also be more difficult and costly than many people think."

Desexing your dog or cat is a simple way for every responsible pet owner to do their bit for animal welfare in Australia.

MYTHS = BUSTED!

The topic of desexing is often associated with all manner of myths and misconceptions, such as the idea mentioned above that it's cruel to get your pet desexed.

Another common belief is that desexing needs to be done early in your pet's life, but this is not true. "It is never too late," Dr Eloise confirms. "We do mostly do the surgery when pets are younger, but there is no reason not to desex at a later age. Most of our anaesthetics are done in older pets and anaesthesia is very safe these days."

Other pet owners think that getting their pet spayed or neutered will cause it to lose its spark, its zest for life. Again, this is untrue. "Desexing your pet will not change their personality, but it can influence the behaviours your pet engages in," Jade says. "Overall, it can reduce competitive, mate-seeking behaviours influenced by hormones and your pet reaching maturity."

There are plenty more reasons than the five listed here as to why you should get your pet desexed but if you're unsure of the benefits of desexing or if you simply have any questions, talk to your vet. He or she will be able to put your mind at ease and tell you everything you need to know about desexing. **P**

A cough is a common symptom of lungworm in felines.



KITTY COUGH

Lungworm can cause serious problems for your feline friend. **Lauren McKellar** finds out more about this tiny parasite.

A nasty parasite that can infect your cat, lungworm was previously not listed as a common concern for pet owners in Australia. However, diagnosis is now becoming more and more frequent, which adds lungworm to the list of likely parasitic problems for cat owners in Australia.

But despite it only coming to light now, lungworm has likely been a problem in Australia for years and just hasn't been properly diagnosed.

In fact, according to a recent study by Bayer, only 16 per cent of vets feel comfortable diagnosing this particular infection, making it one hard-to-treat problem indeed.

"The most common symptom of lungworm is coughing, which is why it does get mistaken for a lot of other diseases," Dr Liisa Ahlstrom, technical services veterinarian from Bayer Australia, says. She adds that other conditions lungworm is mistaken for include bronchitis and even hairballs — both situations where your cat may make a coughing sound.

"Some of the other symptoms are things such as wheezing and if they're thick with it [heavily affected], they can lose weight, be depressed and lethargic. It can also cause sneezing," Dr Liisa says.

THE LUNGWORM STORY

Cats with outdoor access are the primary felines at risk of contracting lungworm.

"It's such an interesting life cycle — well, horrifying and interesting," Dr Liisa says. "Cats mostly get lungworm, we think, by preying on small animals. Infected cats excrete little microscopic lungworm larvae in their faeces so when they toilet around the yard, they contaminate the yard with lungworm larvae."

Slugs or snails then become an intermediate host. The mollusc becomes infected by the larvae and the larvae undergo some development inside the slug or snail. This then results in the lungworm that causes problems in felines today.

"They won't develop further without that final step, and will never be infectious to a cat if this doesn't happen," Dr Liisa says.

Once the lungworm reaches its potential, it can be ingested again by the cat that may eat a slug or snail, or another animal that may do so.

"They're swallowed by the cat and then get into the gastrointestinal tract and burrow through the wall of the intestine, then migrate through the

bloodstream to the lung tissue," Dr Liisa explains. "With that migration, they carry some of the gut bacteria. That bacteria is then translocated or moved from where it's normally found into the lungs, and when there it can set up a nasty pneumonia."

HEALTH ISSUES

Despite being harder to diagnose, lungworms aren't simply something you should ignore when it comes to your cat's health. As well as the initial symptoms described above, a cat can become feverish as a result of lungworm, not to mention the damage this little parasite can do internally.

"Lungworm causes damage to the lungs and if enough damage is caused, there won't be enough healthy lung to oxygenate the blood," Dr Liisa says. "And they often cause secondary bacterial infections."

PREVENTION AND CURES

Thankfully, lungworm is easy to prevent. "There are only two products in Australia* that are registered to treat lungworm in cats. The most common one is Advocate, and it's a really complete parasite-protection product that covers fleas, heartworm, intestinal worms, ear mites and lungworm in cats," Dr Liisa explains.

If you do suspect your cat has lungworm, you should see your vet immediately.

Treatment can be simple and will likely involve a common worming medication. 

**At time of printing*



The dreaded lungworm.



Cats may also become depressed and lethargic when infected with lungworm.

LUNGWORM DANGERS

If your cat develops lungworm, some potential complications include:

- Pneumonia
- Accumulation of pus in chest cavity
- Pus in the thorax

6 WAYS TO SHOW YOU CARE

Show your dog you care this Valentine's Day with the ultimate pet date.

TIP:

Why not walk to your doggy picnic date? Two gestures of love for the price of one!



1 TAKE HIM SOMEWHERE NICE

Whether it's a walk to a new beach or a ride in the car, most dogs love having some extra stimulation in their life. Not only will they enjoy exploring a new place, seeing new sights and sniffing new smells, but they'll also return home content and tired, resulting in a happier household for you.

2 MAKE SURE YOU BRING A GIFT

Just like on a human date, bringing a gift to your pooch shows you care this Valentine's Day. How long has it been since your doggy had a new toy? Whether old or young, there are toys out there designed to suit every kind of pooch. We particularly love the products in the KONG range, for their durable qualities and enrichment values.

3 DRESS UP NICE

We're not talking about you, silly, we're talking about your pet! While some dogs don't enjoy getting groomed, many love the extra attention. Using a specially designed pet brush, use smooth, long strokes over your pet's body for an experience that not only can be a great bonding exercise between you and your pet, but will also leave your pooch looking good with a coat that's less likely to develop mats or knotting in the immediate future.

4 DINE WITH DELIGHT

While any substantial changes to your dog's diet should be done gradually in small increments, this can be a great opportunity to try a new treat or perhaps offer your dog a bone. If you are giving your dog a bone, make sure it isn't cooked, and that it's big enough not to get stuck in your pet's throat as they consume it.

5 PICNIC PLAY DATE

Nothing says love like a picnic play date! Take advantage of the warmer weather and head out to a park with your furry friend. Make sure you pack a blanket, plenty of water (for both you and your dog), some human snacks, some doggy snacks and a ball or toy for a game of fetch.

6 LISTEN

There's one thing everybody wants, and it's simply to be listened to. Spend time with your pet — if they're in need of a visit to the vet, take them. If their worming and flea treatments are due, make sure they're administered on time. Pat them. Care for them. Hug them, if they're the kind of animal that likes sitting on your lap. After all, there's no better way to show your pet you love him or her than that. **P**



Cats are demanding creatures – and so are cat lovers.

The New V-LINE

Vesper cat furniture is the perfect convergence of innovative design, cat-friendly materials and meticulous workmanship. The result is an elegant yet practical line of cat furniture that satisfies the daily activity needs of fussy felines and the aesthetic tastes of cat lovers.

vesper-cats.com



Strategically placed scratching areas



Cozy cubes, platforms and tunnels



Soft and inviting cushions



Available at select PETstock locations
See: www.petstock.com.au/vesper for details

Ask YOUR vet

WITH FUR KIDS' DR JO BECKETT



Never feed your dog a cooked bone.

DOGGY DENTAL CARE

Q: Dear Dr Jo, my dog has a chip on his tooth from biting another dog (it was play biting, and no pooches were harmed — well, aside from the tooth, of course).

I was wondering, should I be brushing my dog's teeth to help keep this chip in check? Or is just the occasional bone enough?
Noah, via email

A: Hi Noah, the structure of a dog's tooth is very similar to ours, as they have the hard outer enamel protecting the dentine and nerves inside.

So if the chip is severe enough it may require a trip to the doggy dentist for correction, or to your regular vet for extraction as exposed nerves can be painful and lead to root abscesses. But, in general, a good quality dry-food diet will keep the teeth clean and if any build-up is noticed then bones can help reduce it. Always use raw bones and avoid those cut by the butcher as those can cause further slab fractures to the teeth. There are finger toothbrushes available, and flavoured animal toothpastes that can help encourage their co-operation. A thorough brushing every 2–3 days will keep teeth healthy.

DIET DOS AND DON'TS

Q: Dear *PETS*, I have recently adopted a five-year-old Staffy x from my local RSPCA. I was wondering, how much should I feed her? Is there a recommended amount? And is a mix of dry and wet food best?

Hope, via email

A: Hi Hope, congratulations on your adoption! How much to feed your dog is very dependent on her size and the quality of her dog food. Most supermarket dry foods are cereal based, so it is like living off Metamucil or All-Bran — your dog will need to eat a lot of it to get what they need. Super-premium foods are protein based, hence have far less fillers and our animals need to be given much less.

In general, read the pack for ingredients ... the first ingredient should be a meat or meat by-product. Dogs are carnivores, so they don't need cereals like cattle and sheep. Wet foods are kept moist by fats/oils and water, which means a lot of money for little nutritional value. Also they tend to get wet foods stuck in their teeth until dislodged by another food, so in general should be kept to a minimum. Hopefully this clarifies a few things, but if in doubt talk to your regular vet and they can assist you further.



Cats can become fastidious about cleanliness.

CAT CLEANLINESS

Q: Dear *PETS*, my cat is fastidious about cleanliness. She spends hours licking and preening, until I swear every piece of hair is just so. She hasn't got any bald patches or anything, but is this fixation healthy or should I be concerned?

Dani, via email

A: Dear Dani, my cats also love to groom, and spend hours licking each hair into position. We tend to bath our dogs but our cats do all the work themselves. Some may allow you to help them with a bath but most hate it. So the next best thing is brushing your cat as frequently as possible to reduce the amount of fur being shed. And also to consider something to help pass hairballs and fur that builds up in their gut. This can be a paste or dry food.

But in general, Dani, it is fine for your cat to be grooming and preening herself regularly. **P**

WRITE TO PETS

Do you need advice from *PETS* magazine's resident vet, Dr Jo Beckett? Send your question and, if possible, a photo of your pet's problem to **Ask your vet/PETS, Locked Bag 154, North Ryde NSW 1670** or email it to **pets@universalmagazines.com.au** with the subject heading "Ask your vet". Be sure to grab the next issue of *PETS* as your question may be answered by Dr Jo Beckett and published in the magazine.

Contact your vet immediately for any health emergencies and, for a huge range of pet care supplies, visit **vetshopaustralia.com.au**

For more information
visit **localvet.com.au/FurKids**
or visit Dr Jo's clinic at Shop 11/2
Sheppards Drive, Greenbank, Qld.

NAUGHTY OR nice



Animal behaviourist
Kate Mornement with
her canine pals Archie
the Boxer and Joseph
the Labrador.

Brett Richardson, Glamour Pets Photography

Do you have a badly behaved budgie or a misbehaving mutt?
Animal behaviourist **Kate Mornement** shares some handy hints to help
get common pet behaviour blunders under control.



Providing your cat with play toys can help keep
it stimulated and avoid disruptive behaviour.

A VOCAL FELINE

Q: Dear Kate, my cat is a yowler, at three
in the morning, for at least half an hour.
Do you know why she does this and how I
can get her to stop?

Paula, via email

A: Hi Paula, there are a number of reasons why
your cat yowls at 3am. She could be bored
or hungry or maybe she wants to be let outside.
Behaviour is driven by consequences and so if
the yowling continues, then it must be rewarding

or your cat wouldn't do it. What do you normally
do when she yowls? Perhaps you're accidentally
rewarding the behaviour.

You can reduce the likelihood that your cat
will continue to yowl by completely ignoring
the behaviour. Once your cat learns that yowling
no longer pays off, she will stop. You can use
ear plugs to help you sleep. Also, provide your
cat with lots of environmental enrichment to
burn energy and ensure she's not bored. Toys
that provide an outlet to chasing, stalking and
hunting, and food-dispensing toys are ideal.



HORSE HOUSING

Q: Dear *PETS*, I have a pet horse that just can't handle being in the paddock with another horse. He's OK during the day but at night, he acts out and just won't relax. Once we caught him trying to kick his poor paddock mate.

Do you have any tips for fixing this or do I need to hire an extra paddock for agistment?
Karla, via email

A: Hi Karla, horses, like us, have different personalities and not all horses get along well with others. Is the paddock big enough for two horses? Perhaps your horse is showing territorial behaviour. Horses can show territorial aggression to protect valued resources, such as food, pasture, water and shelter.

You could try agisting the horses in a larger paddock. However, if your horse has a history of not getting along well with other horses, then it might be best to have him in his own paddock.



While some horses get along, not all will like every other equine they come into contact with.

FETCH-LESS FIDO

Q: Dear *PETS*, my dog Billy does not want to play fetch. I throw the ball, he chases it, he grabs the ball, he runs away and drops it. How on earth can I get him to bring it back before dropping? The game is supposed to be good exercise for him, not me!

Sean, via email

A: Dear Sean, that's a great question! Dogs aren't born knowing how to play fetch. It's a behaviour they learn to repeat because it's fun and rewarding. Billy already does most of the sequence of behaviours necessary to fetch a ball. You just need to work on the final part — teaching him to bring the ball back to you.

Billy hasn't learned that bringing you the ball is what makes you throw it again. That's because you probably go to pick it up where he left it and throw it again. So what's the incentive for Billy to bring it back? From now on, don't throw the ball unless Billy brings it to you. When he does bring you the ball, reward the behaviour with praise, high-value treats and by throwing the ball again. With time and repetition, Billy will learn that bringing you the ball is much more rewarding and will be more likely to repeat the behaviour. Treats can be phased out once Billy fetches consistently. Good luck. **P**

WRITE TO KATE

Does your puppy pee in all the wrong places? Does your kitty scratch the new couches? If you have a question about your pet's behaviour, write to our resident animal behaviourist, Kate Mornement, from Pets Behaving Badly (petsbehavingbadly.com.au). Send your question to **Naughty or nice/PETS, Locked Bag 154, North Ryde NSW 1670** or email your question to pets@universalmagazines.com.au with the subject heading "Naughty or nice". Stay tuned, as your question may be answered by Kate and published in the magazine.



KONG TIME

WITH DR KATRINA WARREN

Kittens and young cats are very inquisitive and usually take the initiative when it comes to play time. They are very active and will often find their own entertainment to keep them occupied and play with pretty much anything they can make move such as shoelaces, string and houseplants.

Just like with puppies, encouraging your kitten to use toys that are safe, durable and engaging will set them up to use these types of toys as adults. It is far easier to encourage a kitten to use interactive toys than a mature cat because at that age they are very alert and curious and once they have mastered the way to use a particular toy, they will tend to enjoy these same toys as an adult.

Setting up good habits in the early days will help prevent problems such as obesity later on. Although cats do sleep for much of the day, they still need physical and mental stimulation to maintain their muscle tone and prevent them from becoming overweight. Indoor cats especially need lots of activities to keep their minds alert and natural instincts satisfied.

The Kitty KONG is a great play toy for younger cats.



If you have a new kitten in your life, it's time to set up some good play habits. **Dr Katrina Warren** gives us her top advice.



KONG has some great toys designed to encourage your kitten to become engaged in play. Experiment with ways to get your kitten moving and interacting with these toys and you will soon learn what your kitten loves.

Here are three of my favourite KONG kitten toys:

KONG KICKEROO

Your kitten will enjoy attacking, wrestling and snuggling their KONG Kickeroo. This



unique cat toy appeals to a cat's instinctive desire to stalk and capture prey. The Kickeroo's size, shape and material are specially chosen to promote wrestling and hind-paw kicking. The fluffy tail provides movement for extra excitement and there is catnip inside to further encourage play.

KITTY KONG

The Kitty KONG is a toy and treat dispenser designed specifically to tap into the natural curiosity and hunting instincts of your kitten. Place some of your kitten's favourite treats inside and offer it to them when they are hungry. Show your kitten the treats and encourage them to bat, roll and bounce the toy. Kittens love the unpredictable nature of the Kitty KONG.

KONG CAT WOBBLER

The KONG Cat Wobbler provides mental and physical stimulation by making playtime fun



Most cats love play time.



The KONG Cat Wobbler provides mental and physical stimulation.

and rewarding. The Wobbler dispenses treats or dry kibble while your cat plays with it. This toy encourages cats to work for their food and can also be used as a mealtime feeder

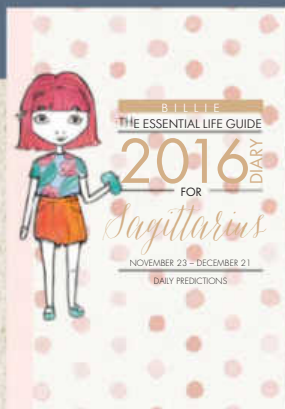
Just five minutes of dedicated playtime a few times a day is all you need to set up good play habits for your kitten and is great bonding time for you too!

For more information,
visit kongcompany.com

IT'S WRITTEN IN THE
STARS, SUBSCRIBE NOW!



BEYONCÉ, BILLIE, SNAPPY



12 ISSUES OF PETS MAGAZINE \$71.40

- + **FREE** 2016 BILLIE LIFE GUIDE, RRP \$19.95
- + **BONUS** 2016 BILLIE CALENDAR, RRP \$19.95

ONLY \$55



2 issues of **PETS Magazine** - RRP \$71.40
 + **FREE 2016 Billie Life Guide**
BONUS 2016 BILLIE Calendar
 Star Sign:

ONLY \$55

MY PERSONAL DETAILS:

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms First name: _____
 Surname: _____
 Address: _____
 Suburb: _____
 State: _____ Postcode: _____
 Daytime telephone: () _____
 Email: _____

Subscriptions will commence with the first available issue. Existing subscriptions will simply be extended. Free gifts arrive separately to the magazine subscription and are sent as soon as possible. Free gift offers do not apply to subscribers currently on the Easy Payment Plan or those upgrading with the Early Bird offer. Offer open to Australian residents only. Offer available while stocks last or until offer expires. By subscribing you acknowledge that you understand that 'top-up' and gifts or bonus issues that may be available with non-subscriber copies of this magazine may not be provided to subscribers and is at the discretion of Universal Magazines Pty Ltd. The Promoter shall not be liable for any loss or damage which is suffered or sustained (including but not limited to, indirect or consequential loss) or for personal injury which is suffered or sustained as a result of taking part in this or any other gift offer. By subscribing you consent to receive any direct marketing material including emails which inform the recipient of the Promoter's other publications, products, services or events and to receive promotional material from third parties. Please tick the box if you do NOT wish us to use this information for the purposes stated above. Offer available while stocks last or until offer expires.

GIFT SUBSCRIPTION TO:

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms First name: _____
 Surname: _____
 Address: _____
 Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____
 Daytime telephone: () _____
 Email: _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Cheque/money order for AU \$ _____

(Please make cheques payable to Universal Magazines Pty Ltd)

Please charge my: ☐ American Express ☐ Diners ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Card number: _____ Expiry date: _____ (Must be included)

Cardholder's name: _____

Cardholder's signature: _____

Visit: www.universalsshop.com.au

CALL NOW 1300 383 414 (cost of a local call)

and quote **C/PETSS2**

FAX NOW (02) 9805 0714

SEND COUPON NOW

Subscriptions Department,

Reply Paid 75587,

North Ryde NSW 1670

EMAIL NOW

mailorder@universalmagazines.com.au

OVERSEAS ENQUIRIES

+61 2 9887 0399

ONLINE NOW

www.universalsshop.com.au

TO RECEIVE THIS OFFER, PLEASE QUOTE CODE: C/PETS52. EXPIRY DATE: 25TH FEBRUARY 2016

T&C's: Offer available while stocks last or until offer expires.

SAY cheer

We had the pleasure
of playing with these
gorgeous Great Dane pups
for this issue's cover shoot.

Check out some of the
behind the scenes shots
from the day.



And they call it puppy love



Who could say no to this face?



"They'll never know that it was I who
pooped in the refrigerator!"



To eat or not to eat, that is the question.



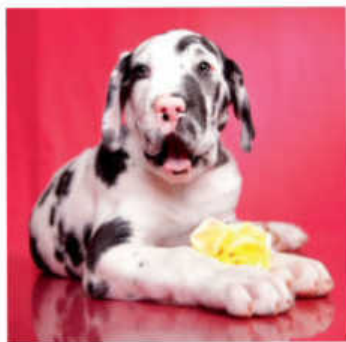
"So ... much ... candy!"



"I've just decided I love boxes.
Boxes are cool!"



"I'm fabulous."



"Wait ... I'm not allowed
to eat the flower?"

A huge thanks
goes to Kirsty from
Daneholz Great
Danes for providing
the gorgeous pups
for this shoot.
For more
information on
Daneholz dogs, visit
daneholz.com.au



"Did you say beads?"



When your mum dresses
you for school.



"I'll be in my trailer."



Eyes that melt your heart.

The Amazing Boarding Kennel Alternative 10,409 Dogs and Their Owners Rave About

Your Dog Will Be Welcomed Into the Home of a Local Dog Lover Just Like You

(Experienced Minders All Around Australia)



Hi, I'm Jenny Brearley. If you're feeling anxious about finding someone to look after your dog while you're away, I'm glad you found us because 22 years ago I had the same problem. That's why I started "Don't Fret Pet!" — holiday dog minding.

You see, I felt terrible taking my eccentric Ridgeback, Sophie, to a boarding kennel. I wanted a more natural and homely alternative for my girl. I hated the thought of Sophie having to cope with the barks and behaviours of a hundred other dogs of all breeds and backgrounds with no lap to sit on and no couch to curl up on. I knew there was no way I would enjoy my holiday as I would feel guilty leaving her in such an unfamiliar environment

So I came up with the idea to start "Don't Fret Pet!" and created a network of dog lovers around Australia who would welcome dogs into their own homes and treat them like one of the family. I screened potential minders to make sure they had experience caring for dogs. And I provided them with information to ensure we could provide consistent, professional care to every client.

We now have wonderful minders in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney, Newcastle, Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sunshine Coast.

Call us now on 1300 30 70 21 if you would like your best friend to have a holiday as good as yours next time you go away. You can also see more information at www.dontfretpet.com.au.





creature

FEATURES



LOOKING FOR A NEW PET BUT
NOT SURE WHAT TO GET?

Whether you're after something
furry, fuzzy, slippery, scaly
or slimy, *PETS* takes the hard
work out of choosing your
new family member.



Keep an eye out for our "At a glance"
boxes, where we rate the care and
maintenance, grooming and exercise
requirements of different breeds and
creatures on a scale from one to five:



- Low maintenance
- Moderate maintenance
- Requires regular attention
- Lots of work
- High maintenance

KIDS AND PETS

Most of the critters we feature are family-friendly,
though it's important to remember children should
be supervised when playing with any animal
whether it's a dog, cat, bird, bunny or reptile.



GREAT SCOT!

The sheer size of this gentle and loving dog will have you in shock. **Nadia Crighton** finds out more about the Great Dane.

Great Danes have a very colourful history. In fact, many believe the lovable breed can be traced as far back as 3000 BC, with several drawings depicting Dane-like dogs appearing on Egyptian artifacts and monuments. There is also evidence that these dogs were drawn on articles in Babylonian temples, some dating back to 2000 BC. Many depict Assyrian men walking alongside huge dogs.

Some zoologists believe Great Danes could have originated in Tibet as there is a similarity between Tibetan Mastiffs and the Danes. Similarly, it has

Due to the dog's size, care must be taken with their long limbs and joints.

been debated over the years whether or not the Irish Wolfhound or Irish Greyhound played a role in the Great Dane's development. Whatever their true origins, it's clear Great Danes have been much-loved and loyal companions to many families throughout history. And, today, not much has changed.

Known as the Apollo of Dogs, this adorable breed is more likely to be seen snuggled up on a couch, huge legs stretched out, or crammed in the back of a car on the way to an outing with the family. Needless to say, this lovable breed has been man's best friend for centuries, so it's no wonder they are considered one of the best-natured breeds by many.

GENTLE GIANTS

Sharyn Wright, who has been breeding these gorgeous giants for more than 30 years, says Great Danes love to be part of family life. "They are very family orientated and love children if they have grown up with them."

However, like many big dogs, they can tend



to get into trouble for accidentally knocking over a young child, especially during times of excitement.

"You do have to watch young children as they could be knocked over accidentally by an excited dog," Sharyn says. "However, children should never be left alone with any dog, especially when a dog is eating."

To ensure your Great Dane grows up to be child-friendly, socialise him around children from a young age. All puppies should be exposed to everything the world can offer at a young age as this will help prevent your dog from becoming fearful. This is particularly important regarding children, strange people, adults of different sexes and dogs of all shapes and sizes.

TAKE CARE

Because the Dane is such a large dog, care must be taken during puppyhood not to over-exert your growing pup. Great Danes should never be allowed to jump from high places as this puts extra strain on their fast-growing limbs and bones. Rough play with other dogs is also not advisable for any large breed during puppyhood and adolescence.

Care must be taken when it comes to exercise. It is not advisable to run your young dog around as this will add to the strain of growing and can lead to orthopaedic problems.

Great Danes can grow into huge dogs so it is recommended that families pop out and visit a fully grown Great Dane before deciding to purchase one.

"People must be aware of how big they grow," Sharyn says. "It is surprising how many people return a dog because he is so big. People need to realise that a Dane wants to be with them, not left outside without any attention. Owners also need to be patient, especially if a Dane makes a mistake such as digging a hole. The hole is going to be very big! Whatever they do, it will be big."

A HEALTHY DANE

Because of the Dane's sheer size, training is very important. All dogs require training, however it is especially imperative for larger breeds. Let's face it, there is nothing worse than a Great Dane, or any large dog, greeting you by jumping up

when you return from work. This may be sweet and cute during the puppy stages, but a fully grown Great Dane would knock you over.

"They need basic obedience," Sharyn says. "You could not have a large dog and not have it under your control. There are a number of dogs that do obedience and there have been the occasional dogs doing agility, endurance and even sledding."

Grooming is never an issue with a Great Dane. Their coats are easy to manage and a brush once a week with a rubber mitt or brush is recommended to help stimulate blood flow to the skin and keep the coat in mint condition. This will also help remove any loose, dead hairs from the short coat.

Danes only need to be bathed when necessary and don't tend to have that doggie smell familiar with some other breeds.

"The dog would need washing with a good-quality shampoo when the need arises and their ears and nails would need attention, perhaps monthly," Sharyn says.

Make sure you always purchase your Dane from a reputable breeder and check for hip and elbow scores to eliminate hereditary elbow and hip dysplasia.

Good breeders will not breed dogs with any problems, however always go in with a list of questions so you can check if any issues are present in any bloodlines. Do your homework and ask around. Good breeders love their dogs and will interview you to see if you are suitable for the breed.

Also, ask your breeder about entropion and cardiomyopathy as these have been presented in some breed lines. **P**

AT A GLANCE

Grooming: 

Exercise: 

Size: Large

Lifespan: 8–10 years

For more information on the Great Dane or to contact a local breed club, visit your state canine council website via ankc.org.au New Zealand readers can visit nzkc.org.nz for information.

CHINESE CRESTED DOG

This dog is perhaps best known for the hairless variety.

If you're after an unusual dog that is also loyal and adorable, you can't go past the amazing Chinese Crested Dog.
By **Michelle Segal.**

Coming both with hair and without, the Chinese Crested Dog is truly a marvel of the dog world. The hairless variety is a showstopper, with its characteristic tufts of hair on its head and neck and fine plume of hair on its feet and tail. The hairy Chinese Crested is known as the "Powder Puff", with a dense undercoat covered by a long, silky overcoat.

Although the Chinese Crested seems to have an obvious connection to China due to its name, it's believed to have originated from several countries, including Africa and South America.

Interestingly, the hairless variety was not bred to look the way it does, but evolved that way naturally. The breed was apparently used to catch rats on ships and in rural communities, but those traits are barely evident in the breed today.

A PLAYFUL COMPANION

Nowadays, this breed is valued mostly for its companionship attributes and while the hairless Chinese Crested may need a bit of getting used to for some people, it is a wonderful breed, according to the experts

Photo: Big Stock Photo



— loyal, affectionate, playful and a great family dog.

Sandy Pickering of the Chinese Crested Club of New South Wales says you can never tire of this amazing breed. And what particularly amazes her are the “intricacies of its genetics, having both varieties born in the same litter with the added twist of either erect or drop-eared Powder Puffs”.

Having been involved with the breed since 1995, Sandy adds that this pooch’s elegance is especially captivating. “With its sighthound nature, this breed’s long, flowing movement can be quite heart-stopping,” she says. “A girlfriend once summed up the breed when she met my first Powder Puff as ‘exotic.’”

Sandy says those most suited to this breed are people who are prepared for an inside dog, but with room for exercising outside. She also stressed that the Chinese Crested bonds strongly to one person for life — and, yes, it will end up in your bed!

“We picked up a Powder Puff bitch that had flown over from South Australia and when we let her out of her crate, she climbed up and perched on my left shoulder and stayed there during the three-hour trip home. And she sleeps in the bed!” Sandy admits.

She stresses the need for a well-fenced yard as the Chinese Crested can be somewhat of an escapologist, “especially with their great climbing skills”.

SPECIAL CARE

The Chinese Crested appeared in Australia for the first time as recently as 1973 and is still fairly rare, owned mainly by breeders and exhibitors. While it is not difficult to care for, the skin of the hairless variety is susceptible to acne and can easily burn so they should not be allowed to lie in the sun. When you take your pooch out, you will need to apply a good sunscreen to its skin to avoid sunburn.

Moisturiser needs to be applied to the skin to keep it soft, and a medicated soap should be used during bathing if pimples are a problem. In winter, the hairless variety can really feel the

cold and will need to be kept warm with rugs or a good coat.

Powder Puffs should be brushed at least two to three times a week to prevent mats, and require bathing every few weeks.

EXERCISE NEEDS

The Chinese Crested Dog is not high maintenance when it comes to exercise, but it will appreciate a daily walk if it lives in small premises. The breed is suited to apartments and townhouses as well as bigger homes. They are not big barkers, but will alert you to strangers and can be nervous with people they are not familiar with.

Breeders recommend the Chinese Crested to singles and families who have the time to care for this breed’s needs. However, they discourage families with young children from adopting one of these pooches as these dogs can feel threatened by youngsters who may tease or be rough with them. **P**

AT A GLANCE

Grooming: 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾

Exercise: 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾

Size: Small

Lifespan: 10+ years

For more information on the Chinese Crested Dog or to contact a local breed club, visit your state canine council website via ankc.org.au New Zealand readers can visit nzkc.org.nz for information.

This sweet cat has showstopping looks.



WHAT A DOLL!

The Ragdoll combines gorgeous looks with an affectionate personality, making it a truly fabulous pet. By **Carrol Baker**.

TOP TO TAIL: GROOMING YOUR RAGDOLL

The Ragdoll's coat is silky smooth and medium length. Although their coat is non-matting, Mandy suggests regular brushing (at least once a week) is essential to remove dead hair, and prevent hair balls and any small tangles.

- Using a slicker brush and/or wide-tooth comb, gently brush with long strokes through the back to the tail.
- Pay attention behind the ears, neck, hind quarters and armpits as these areas may be prone to small knots.
- Keep the experience short (10 minutes tops), pleasurable and stress free and your cat will enjoy the attention.

The Ragdoll is a beautiful breed of cat that will quickly steal your heart (and probably your chair when you are not looking). Cute, cheeky and fun, the breed earned the moniker Ragdoll because of their relaxed attitude about being picked up and cuddled. They'll sometimes flop in your arms, just like a child's toy ragdoll.

Breeder Mandy Bugeja from Sugar N Spice Ragdolls says the Ragdoll is a popular feline breed because it brings so much joy and happiness to a home. "They're loyal, trusting, placid and just an all-round very loving and socially friendly breed," she says.

The Ragdoll is just as happy to be part of a big, noisy family (with lots of kids and other pets running around) as it is with just one person — and

if you have visitors pop by, they are sociable and usually don't mind a snuggle or a pat. They also don't need a lot of room to roam as, according to Mandy, most have had their hunting instinct bred out, so they're suited to apartment living too.

COLOURFUL CATS

The Ragdoll is an aristocratic-looking breed with captivating, big, deep-blue eyes. They have a long, bushy tail, a medium-to-large-sized, athletic body and a beautiful coat with distinctive colour markings and coat patterns. In Australia, they are available in the following colours: seal, blue, lilac, chocolate, flame/red and cream. "The color of the Ragdoll combined with the pattern is what sets the breed apart from



EXPERT OPINION

We asked Dr Kim Kendall, feline expert from the Chatswood Cat Palace, for her opinion on this fluffy feline.

"Ragdolls are rapidly taking over the couch for people who want a fluffy cat. Those fabulous blue eyes drag everyone into their depths. Under that fluff, though, can lie a real cat. Some hunt — even catching rats — but most just get lunch brought to them. They are another of the breeds that can get hypertrophic cardiomyopathy — some quite severely — and there is a genetic test for it now. The other health issues they may suffer from are allergies — they have sensitive intestines and are commonly atopic (allergic to pollens etc) so they do benefit from regular washes. Aside from that, they are excellent manipulators of their people — one 'distress-note whinge' (which they can even embed in their purr) gets their owners doing exactly what they want. Gorgeous and moderately high maintenance (including behaviour-wise), the Ragdoll is still a cat when mice are around."

For more information on Dr Kim, visit catpalace.com.au

others and makes for a gorgeous-looking cat," says Mandy. "Ragdoll patterns include the colourpoint, mitted, bicolor, tortie and the tabby or lynx. The colourpoint, mitted and bicolor are the three traditional categories with the tabby (lynx) and tortie pattern being two of the more unusual pattern overlays available."

CALIFORNIAN CATS

The Ragdoll evolved in the 1960s in sunny California, in the age of surfer dudes, longboards and laid-back living. Maybe that's why they have such a relaxed and mellow nature! Mandy says that basically the breed came about when a woman called Anne Baker and her neighbour began a breeding program carefully selecting kittens that shared special characteristics. "The foundation cats that were used to establish the breed were called Josephine,

Buckwheat, Daddy Warbucks and Fugianna, who was actually the first bicolor Ragdoll," she explains.

HEALTH ISSUES

The breed is very robust and healthy but, as with any feline breed, it's always a good idea to have an annual vet check. There is, however, a condition called hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, which causes the heart muscle to thicken, that's been documented in the Ragdoll, says Mandy. To avoid any issues, always buy a cat or kitten from a reputable and knowledgeable breeder who is aware of health issues and/or offers a health guarantee, she suggests.

The Ragdoll thrives on a diet of premium dry and wet food. "Ragdolls do well with foods that include lean protein, so choosing foods where meat products are listed first is a good tip!" says Mandy. The Ragdoll isn't a super-active breed so take care not to overfeed your cat, even when it looks up at you with those gorgeous, big, blue eyes begging for more.

COUGH LOVERS

Unlike some cats that like to perch up high and pounce, the Ragdoll is happy cruising around ground level — yours will probably greet you at the door when you come home and be very happy to cuddle up and hear all about your day.

Mandy says she always think of her beautiful Ragdolls as laid-back couch potatoes! "I also sometimes like to refer to them as 'puppy cats' because they love to follow you everywhere! They also enjoy a good game of fetch!" she adds.

And here's something all little girls will love. Mandy says the Ragdoll is very affectionate and loves to be held like a baby. "Children adore them and often love to dress them up in doll clothes, push them in baby prams and ride around with them on bikes — the cats love the attention." 

AT A GLANCE

Grooming: 
Weight: 5–9kg (females are smaller)
Size: medium to large
Cost: \$1000 +
Lifespan: average 15 years



The Paint Horse has a very distinctive look.

PAINT HORSE

They're smart, striking and have a sunny disposition. **Carrol Baker** learns more about the Paint Horse.

The Paint Horse is a strong, athletic breed that's mostly very friendly and sociable. They make wonderful pets because they are easy to train, very relaxed and adept at learning new tricks.

Physically, the Paint Horse is a handsome and eye-catching breed with a broad, defined chest, well-muscled hindquarters and a distinguished head. The breed is American in origin having been descended from quarter-mile-race horses, as well as the stock horses that cowboys rode along the rugged plains.

The very first Paint Horse came to Australia in the mid-1970s and today, the breed has become a reliable all-rounder and is popular as a cattle horse, pet and riding-event horse. For those who love to ride in equine events, the Paint Horse can

ride rings around many other breeds. They're very eager to please and intelligent with a sound work ethic, so they're a fabulous competitor in events.

If you're looking for a Paint Horse as a child's pet, breeder Lee Ann Hall from Hallmark Farms has a couple of recommendations: "Always buy a horse that is more than five years of age and is a gelding — a far better option for a child's horse than a mare or stallion."

COOL COLOURS

The Paint Horse can come in any body colour, including bay, black, brown, chestnut, buckskin, palomino and grey. What's particularly interesting about the breed is the markings on its coat. No two Paint Horses will ever look 100 per cent identical, because they have unique splashes of colour over their bodies and sometimes their faces.

Lee Ann says there are three common patterns: **Overo** — very striking with irregular face markings, white splashes up the neck and in the centre of the barrel of the body.

Tobiano — white with a patch on the chest and either flank, and a simple face marking like a star.

Sabino — white stocking and a blaze, and possibly white on the belly similar to the markings seen on Clydesdales.



The Paint Horse is eager to please with a sound work ethic.

FEEDING YOUR HORSE

Your horse enjoys a diet of lucerne hay, fed twice daily, along with a commercially prepared leisure horse feed. As a special treat, this horse adores carrots and some even love peppermint.

CARING FOR YOUR HORSE

Like any horse, owning a Paint Horse is a big responsibility, as you have to set aside time to devote to caring for his needs. The Paint Horse also enjoys regular grooming. "Grooming bonds you with your horse, you can check if he has any injuries and it helps circulation by increasing blood flow, as well as massages his muscles," says Lee Ann.

Give him a quick groom before you saddle him up. "Take five minutes to clean his feet out and groom the saddle area, where the girth does up," she says.

"After you go for a ride, cool him down before you unsaddle him and give him another 10-minute groom down."

Once a week, your horse needs a more thorough grooming, whether you're riding him or not. Using a rubber curry comb, groom your

horse in the direction of its coat, using even strokes to remove any mud, then use a rubber glove to remove dust and dirt. A dandy brush will remove any tangles, and then finally comb the mane and tail.

Bath your horse every now and then, using warm water. Bathing isn't really necessary — grooming is far more important, advises Lee Ann. Don't use human shampoos as these are the wrong pH level and your horse could end up with skin irritation and possibly hair loss.

KEEPING YOUR PAINT HORSE HEALTHY

Your horse will need to have his feet trimmed or shod every six weeks and, depending on your horse's age (from two years), should have its teeth checked once a year by a vet or horse dentist. Your horse will also need to be wormed every six to 10 weeks, depending on which product you use, and have the necessary vaccinations.

The Paint Horse is a very fit and strong breed. As Lee Ann puts it, "They have sound confirmation." This means there are no major health issues to worry about. "They don't have a lot of the inherent issues — joint and feet problems — that other horses can have as they age," Lee Ann adds. 🐾

AT A GLANCE

Grooming: 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾

Size: From 14 hands

Weight: 470kg average

Longevity: 20+ years

Cost: For a leisure horse, \$3000

For more information, visit:
Paint Horse Association of Australia,
painthorse.com.au
The American Paint Horse Association,
apha.com
Hallmark Farm, hallmarkfarm.com

PLAYFUL PARROT

When paired with the right owner, the Blue and Gold Macaw makes an intelligent and attentive pet. **Tim Falk** reports.

If you were looking for words to describe the Blue and Gold Macaw, beautiful, intelligent and playful would be right at the top of the list. These gorgeous parrots, which are native to South America, have plenty to offer to an owner who is willing to put in the time and effort required to raise and socialise them properly.

"Macaws are highly intelligent and playful birds," explains Dr Adrian Gallagher from Brisbane Bird Vet. "They are also very tactile and love physical attention," qualities many owners adore.

Also called the Blue and Yellow Macaw, these birds boast unique good looks that make them stand out from the crowd. The beautiful blue plumage on the Macaw's back, wings and tail is offset by the golden tones of its chest and the underside of its wings, while the white cheek patch and green forehead complete this feathery package.

There's much more to the Blue and Gold Macaw than just good looks, however — these birds are also known for their intelligence and sociability. They can also be quite vocal and love



The Blue and Gold Macaw is a very good-looking parrot.

receiving plenty of attention from their owners, but they do have some special care requirements that any potential owner should consider.

HIGH MAINTENANCE

Dr Adrian says socialisation is a hugely important consideration for Blue and Gold Macaws and that these beautiful creatures should be kept in multiple-bird households.

"Blue and Gold Macaws are strong-willed birds but can be loving and gentle with the correct pre-purchase upbringing and training," he says. "It is essential that birds are 'abundance weaned' and socialised with other birds, preferably Macaws, prior to purchase by the new owner."

"There is an alarming trend towards hand raising and abruptly weaning birds, including Macaws, and selling them at an early age. Parrots



need to know that they are birds and this can only be achieved by socialisation with other birds."

Dr Adrian recommends that Macaws should not be purchased until they reach at least five, preferably six, months of age, as birds that are weaned and sold early fail to develop social and developmental skills and are more likely to exhibit behavioural issues later in life.

"New owners should not be too eager to bring home a new parrot. It is essential that correct weaning and socialisation occurs prior to purchase to improve [the chances of] a successful outcome," he says.

Any prospective Macaw owner should also be aware that these birds require plenty of ongoing maintenance, which, when combined with their long lifespans, means you need to be willing to take on an extended commitment if you choose a Blue and Gold Macaw as a pet.

"Due to their intelligence and active disposition, all parrots are relatively high maintenance," Dr Adrian explains. "All new birds should have a new-bird examination, faecal examination, testing for chlamydia and worming performed as soon as possible after purchase. We also recommend microchipping your bird for identification and have its sex accurately determined. Dietary, training and enrichment advice is given at this time."

A quality, pelleted food is essential as a core diet for an adult parrot, along with low-energy vegetables. Fruits, seeds and nuts should be limited to use when training or foraging.

"Preferably, all Macaws should be flighted unless

the risk of escape or harm is significant. Birds love to fly and this is another natural behaviour that we should be encouraging," Dr Adrian says.

If a bird's parents have been overbred or fed a poor diet, spinal and skeletal abnormalities can occur, but these problems should generally be detected at a new-bird veterinary examination. "Behavioural problems such as screaming, destructive behaviours, feather destructiveness and self-mutilation are all common issues," Dr Adrian advises, so it's essential that the mental welfare needs of the bird are met and plenty of environmental enrichment is provided to prevent these issues.

However, if you're willing to put in the hard work and dedication needed to give your bird a loving home, the Blue and Gold Macaw could be perfect for you. With its steady temperament and eagerness to learn, this lovely breed of bird can provide years of enjoyment and companionship.

As for who would make the ideal owner for a Blue and Gold Macaw, Dr Adrian says it's important that any prospective owner is prepared to give their feathered friend the care and attention it deserves. "The best Macaw owners that I see are educated owners," he says. "They are high-maintenance [pets] and very long lived. Owners should consider what changes may occur over the duration of their bird's life and train an independent and confident individual that will adapt to any situation. Most avian veterinarians will offer behavioural and training consultations to help new owners achieve this aim." 

DID YOU KNOW?

Socialisation with other birds is essential for the Blue and Gold Macaw.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Blue and Gold Macaw is native to South America.

AT A GLANCE

Grooming:     

Size: Large

Weight: 900–1200g

Lifespan: 40+ years

Cost: \$4500+

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the six differences
between these two pictures?



© Lovatts Puzzles





A Dogs Life

Pet First Aid Care and Nutrition

Providing a complete and balanced approach to a Dogs Health through Care, Nutrition & Behaviour

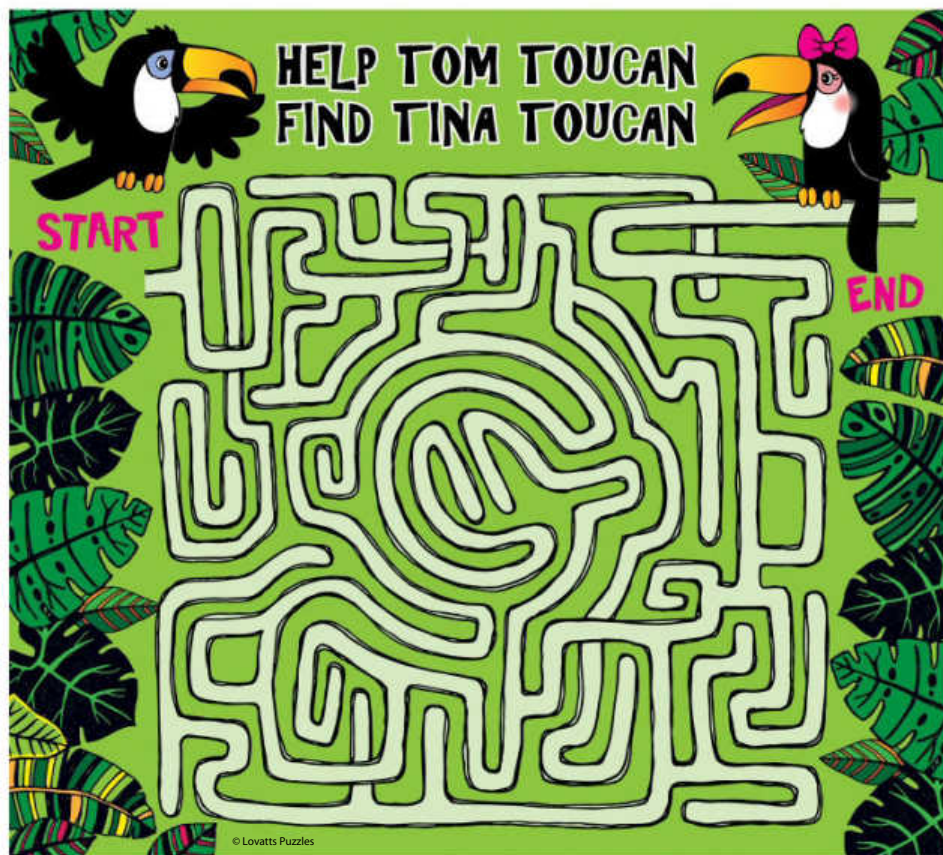


A Dogs Life Pet First Aid Care & Nutrition offers 8 hour and 4 hour Pet Saver and First Aid/CPR courses. They are designed for the Pet Parent and the Pet Care Professional and cover topics of dental care, caring for your pet-izen and all valuable first aid topics, including muzzling. We are proud suppliers of St John Pet First Aid Kits and carefully researched Emergency Kits for Pets. We also offer Dog training, Puppy Socialisation, Nutritional advice and Organic treats.

For more information call 0419 856 856 or visit www.adogslifepfa.com.au

MAZE

Can you help Tom Toucan
find Tina Toucan?



SOLUTIONS
ON PAGE 97



For a dog that has everything except its own back yard.

The time dog owners save on training, cleaning and maintenance can now be quality, enjoyable time spent with their four legged friend.

Free delivery to your door



**AVAILABLE
IN 2 SIZES**
REG AND XL

**25% OFF
FOR PETS
MAGAZINE
READERS**
promo code:
petmagoffer

- ✓ FULLY DISPOSABLE
- ✓ ABSORBS URINE AND ODOURS
- ✓ CONVENIENT
- ✓ ECO-FRIENDLY
- ✓ GREAT FOR PUPPY TRAINING TOO

Fresh Patch will improve the lives of dog owners.

www.freshpatch.com.au | sales@freshpatch.com.au | 1300 014 422

*25% OFF ONLY APPLIES TO SMALL DOG SINGLE FRESH PATCH SALE

FIND-A-WORD

Can you find the 16 words hidden in our farm-themed find-a-word? Words can go up, down, across, backward, diagonal, and backward diagonal, so keep your eyes peeled!

R	B	E	N	H	C	E	O	R	C	H	A	R	F	S	B
O	R	A	C	I	K	N	A	R	G	H	A	C	H	I	C
O	E	R	R	E	E	D	K	E	N	R	I	P	E	Y	E
S	A	B	O	N	S	A	P	A	S	T	U	R	G	E	H
T	L	S	T	G	O	E	E	G	O	O	A	S	E	A	H
R	R	L	C	E	O	S	S	D	O	P	K	L	R	A	I
E	O	C	A	S	G	D	R	C	A	F	E	V	G	E	K
O	O	H	R	M	X	S	O	S	D	R	A	H	C	R	O
R	S	I	T	B	A	W	H	G	O	A	T	B	H	U	T
C	T	C	R	A	H	W	H	E	A	E	O	A	I	T	R
H	R	K	O	R	O	E	O	S	E	M	I	R	C	S	E
R	E	L	C	G	R	A	R	E	U	P	A	H	K	A	A
D	Y	E	H	A	S	N	E	K	C	I	H	C	E	P	S
A	H	N	I	K	F	O	H	U	I	G	Q	A	A	H	X
R	A	C	C	I	E	A	E	R	O	O	S	T	E	R	U
O	C	H	K	L	G	T	B	T	R	A	C	T	O	P	L

SOLUTIONS
ON PAGE 97



COW



HORSE



LLAMA



SHEEP



PIG



CHICKEN



DOG



GOAT



TRACTOR



DEER



PASTURE



ORCHARDS



BARN



GOOSE



CAT



ROOSTER



QUALITY CAT ENCLOSURES

PurrFect for your feline friend



Small Kit



Starter Kit

Catnip cat enclosure are the original designers and manufacturers of modular cat enclosures and tunnels, cat parks and cat cages in Australia.

Call 1800 639 998 or visit www.catnip.com.au for more information

COMING UP...

IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF **PETS**

SOLUTIONS

ON SALE
FEBRUARY 25



EASTER
egg-stravaganza



SMALL ANIMAL
SPECIAL



DOG-LOVERS GUIDE
TO AUSTRALIA

Where can you
take your pet?

AND LOTS, LOTS MORE!

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

1. Cow bell missing
2. Cow tail long
3. Bird's eye open
4. Bird beak smaller
5. Bee has extra eyelashes
6. Bee missing stinger
7. Rabbit has short ear
8. Extra heart.

© Lovatts Puzzles

MAZE



© Lovatts Publications

FIND-A-WORD

R	B	E	N	H	C	E	O	R	C	H	A	R	F	S	B
O	R	A	C	I	K	N	A	R	G	H	A	C	H	I	C
O	E	R	R	E	E	D	K	E	N	R	I	P	E	Y	E
S	A	B	O	N	S	A	P	A	S	T	U	R	G	E	H
T	L	S	T	G	O	E	E	G	O	A	S	E	A	H	
R	R	L	C	E	O	S	D	O	P	K	L	R	A	I	
E	O	C	A	S	G	D	R	C	A	F	E	V	G	E	K
O	O	H	R	M	X	S	O	S	D	R	A	H	C	R	O
R	S	I	T	B	A	W	H	G	O	A	T	B	H	U	T
C	T	C	R	A	H	W	H	E	A	E	O	A	I	T	R
H	R	K	O	R	O	E	O	S	E	M	I	R	C	S	E
R	E	L	C	G	R	A	R	E	U	P	A	H	K	A	A
D	Y	E	H	A	S	N	E	K	C	I	H	C	E	P	S
A	H	N	I	K	F	O	H	U	I	G	Q	A	A	H	X
R	A	C	C	I	E	A	E	R	O	O	S	T	E	R	U
O	C	H	K	L	G	T	B	T	R	A	C	T	O	P	L

By Peter Clarke

TERMS AND CONDITIONS...

1. Entry into the competition implies full acceptance of all conditions of entry, including the instructions on how to enter. 2. Entry is open to all residents of Australia and New Zealand. Employees and immediate families of the promoter, associated companies and agencies associated with this promotion are ineligible to enter. 3. Entries close with last mail and email on **March 2, 2016**, unless stated otherwise. The entries will be judged by the **PETS** editorial team and the winner(s) will be selected on March 16, 2016. The winners will be notified by mail, email or telephone. 4. Write the competition name on the front of the envelope and send to **PETS magazine, Locked Bag 154, North Ryde NSW 1670** or email your entry to **pets@universalmagazines.com.au**. 5. Prize(s) will be delivered to winners within four (4) weeks of notification of winning. Prize(s) are not transferable or redeemable for cash. 6. The prize must be collected within one (1) calendar year from the date a winner is chosen. If the prize is not claimed within this time, the competition is deemed invalid and the prize will be forfeited. 7. Prizes are subject to availability, not transferable or exchangeable and cannot be taken as cash. Any change in value of the prize(s) is not the responsibility of the promoter. 8. The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Prizes will be awarded on the basis of merit. Chance plays no part in determining the winners. 9. All entries become the property of the promoter. The entries may be entered into a database for future promotional, marketing and publicity purposes, unless otherwise stated by the entrants. If you do not wish to be entered into this database, please indicate this on your envelope. This will not exclude you from entry to the competition. Please see privacy note below for further information. 10. No responsibility is accepted for lost, misdirected or delayed mail. 11. If you do not wish to receive information about similar publications/services from Universal Magazines or carefully vetted third parties, please write either of the following statements on your envelope, depending on your preference: I am happy to receive future offers from **PETS** magazine and carefully vetted third parties OR Please do not send me any further mail that does not relate to this competition. **Privacy Note:** With your permission, your details may be recorded so we can send you information about similar publications/services from Universal Magazines or carefully vetted third parties. Universal Magazines is committed to National Privacy Principles. We do not sell data to list brokers. If you wish to see our policy, go to **universalshop.com.au** and look under privacy or call us on (02) 9887 0339.



Here's what we're loving this issue.



BUSTER INCREDIBOWL

Mealtime can be a stressful event for many dogs, but there's good news on the horizon as the Buster IncrediBowl is here to help! This feeding solution is perfect for long-eared dogs, as the bowl's shape avoids the dog's ears coming into contact with the food. This same conical shape is also great for those dogs that simply wolf down their food, as it forces them to slow down.

Coming in at 1L and 2L sizes, and four brilliant colours (magenta, lime green, dark grey and navy blue), the Buster IncrediBowl definitely gets the *PETS* tick of approval. For more information, visit dlc.com.au

TUSSLE DUMMY

If your dog likes to tug like our dogs like to tug, you should definitely check out the Tussle Dummy from our good friends at Major Dog. This versatile toy has easy grips for tug o' war games and folds in on itself for convenient carrying to and from the park.

Made from durable, natural rubber, this toy comes in small and large sizes, ensuring that there will be one to suit your four-legged friend. For more information, visit majordog.com.au



NO CHEW

It's a pesky problem that many pet owners have faced before — how do you stop your pet from biting, chewing or licking things he or she shouldn't? Whether it's a new set of stitches after a visit to the vet or simply the leg of the couch (mmm! Tastes like chicken!), if your dog is fixated on chewing, licking or biting this object, it can be the source of much frustration in your household.

That's why we like No Chew bitter-taste spray from Nature's Miracle. Made with natural ingredients, this product is gentle and safe for use on pet's hot spots, wounds and bandages, as well as your furniture and other fabrics. For more information, visit natures-miracle.com



RAPHIE'S IMMUNITY PUPLIMENT POWDER

When it comes to our dog's health, we want the very best. So if you'd like to boost your pet's immune system, why not try Raphie's Immunity Pupilment powder? Packed with more than 20 essential vitamins and minerals, this product is designed to maintain healthy immune function in pups — and considering what a lot of little ones lick, eat, chew and roll on, some extra health benefits can only be a good thing.

Just one scoop added to your existing pet food is all you need. For more information, visit raphies.com.au





I love to
laze about
and soak up
the sun.

WHO AM I?

I 'purr'
when I'm
contented.

I enjoy
perching in
high places.

I can be very
affectionate!

I like to
explore.

Does this sound a bit like a
certain four-legged best
friend? Well, I'm not a cat. And
I'm not a dog ... **I'm a chicken!**

Farmed animals have much
more in common with our pets
than most people realise. If you
agree that all animals deserve
kindness, not cruelty, try a
delicious meat-free meal today!



KONG[®] JUMBLER[™]

NEW

- Squeaker and tumbling interior ball entice play
- Ideal for interactive fun
- Handles make pick up and shaking easy



Dogs Need to Play.[®]